

# MINUTES

## HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION

January 21, 2011

### 1. Call to Order

Chairman David Hendrickson convened a meeting of the Higher Education Policy Commission at 12:00 noon in Room 1220 of Building 2000 at the West Virginia Education, Research, and 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, John "Ted" Mattern, and David Tyson. Absent: Bob Brown and Kathy Eddy.

### 2. Oath of Office

Chairman Hendrickson administered the oath of office to John "Ted" Mattern, the Acting State Superintendent of Schools and newest member of the Commission.

### 3. Chairman's Report

Chairman Hendrickson applauded local, county, and state leaders as well as business and community stakeholders that participated in the successful donation of the South Charleston Technology Park from The Dow Chemical Company to the State of West Virginia and the Commission.

Chairman Hendrickson presented a resolution on behalf of the Commission to Ms. Dawn E. Warfield, Deputy Attorney General in the West Virginia Attorney General's Office, for her outstanding public service. Ms. Warfield's legal expertise was instrumental in securing a new future for the West Virginia Education, Research, and Technology Park.

Chairman Hendrickson announced the creation of the College Completion Task Force, which will be co-chaired by First Lady Joanne Tomblin and Dr. Jim Clements, President of West Virginia University. The Task Force will include representatives from across the state's higher education system and will help the State of West Virginia develop a plan for increasing the number of students that not only start, but finish college. The Task Force's findings will be formally presented at a future Commission meeting.

### 4. Chancellor's Report

Dr. Brian Noland, Chancellor, recognized West Virginia University for their recent selection by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching for the 2010 Community Engagement Classification, which placed the institution in the six

percent of higher education institutions recognized by the Carnegie Foundation for engagement.

Chancellor Noland provided a brief overview of the 2011 regular legislative session and noted that a full report will be provided at the April 29, 2011 Commission meeting.

Chancellor Noland also provided a summary of financial aid programs including the number of Spring 2011 recipients for the West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program; PROMISE Scholarship Program; Engineering, Science, and Technology Scholarship; and the Underwood-Smith Teacher Scholarship.

Chancellor Noland noted that in the Spring of 2010, a sample of West Virginia's high school seniors were asked to respond to a series of questions about their high school experience and their plans after graduation. The survey focused on four key areas including academic preparation in high school, post-high school plans, financing a college education, and college choice. The results of the survey are intended to provide educators, administrators, and policymakers across the state with the most current snapshot of the students' perspectives, experiences, and plans as they transition to life beyond high school.

## **5. Approval of Minutes**

Secretary Goodwin moved approval of the minutes of the meeting held on December 3, 2010, as provided in the agenda materials. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## **6. Access**

### **A. Report on Student Transfer at West Virginia Postsecondary Institutions**

Dr. Angela Bell, Research and Planning Analyst, presented a report on student transfer at West Virginia postsecondary institutions. Dr. Bell's presentation provided an overview of the transfer volume, institution type, characteristics of transfer students, retention at four-year public institutions, and graduation rates of Fall 2005 transfer and non-transfer students.

Chairman Hendrickson inquired regarding how many hours typically transfer across institutions. Dr. Bell responded that it varies by institution and degree program, but institutions individually evaluate student transcripts to maximize the transferability of credits.

Chancellor Noland noted the audit shows challenges in addressing the issue of transfer and a follow-up report will be provided at a future Commission meeting.

## **7. Cost and Affordability**

### **A. West Virginia Network for Educational Telecomputing (WVNET) Status Report**

Mr. Dan O'Hanlon, Vice Chancellor for Technology, provided an overview of the history and service mission of WVNET. He also outlined the challenges the organization faces including continuing to provide service to all of the state's public higher education institutions and related entities and evaluating the organization's current facility utilization and future space needs.

### **B. Fiscal Year 2010 Consolidated Audit Presentation**

Dr. Kevin Walthers, Vice Chancellor for Administration, introduced Mr. Dennis Juran of Deloitte & Touche, who made the annual audit presentation of the Higher Education Fund. Mr. Juran noted that the audit includes four-year and two-year institutions as well as the Commission and the Council. Mr. Juran discussed the 2010 Consolidated Audit and the management letter findings and indicated that the overall financial condition of the Higher Education Fund is strong.

Dr. Walthers noted that financial figures were adjusted to reflect the system's OPEB (Other Post Employee Benefits) liability. Chancellor Noland highlighted the recommendation for an internal audit function including an internal auditor and an internal audit committee.

Mr. Tyson 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, 2010.

Dr. Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **C. Efficiencies Task Force Report**

Dr. Walthers introduced Dr. Stephen Kopp, President of Marshall University, who provided an overview and charge of the Efficiencies Task Force and discussed the recommendations made in the report. The Task Force examined institutional efficiencies and recommended systematic efforts aimed at increasing productivity and streamlining costs. Dr. Walthers previewed a prototype of the Task Force's proposed website, which will be made public in the near future.

## **D. Approval of Funding Formula**

Dr. Walthers reviewed the proposed funding formula, which was developed in collaboration with institutional, legislative, and state leaders. The funding formula is comprised of several major components, which equals the total recommended state funding to be received by each institution. Dr. Walthers indicated the adoption of the funding formula would alter the way higher education is funded. Dr. Patricia Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer for the Community and Technical College System of West Virginia, presented various calculations and formulas.

Mr. Estep moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the proposed funding model as the methodology for pursuing state operating and incentive funds.

Dr. Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## **8. Learning and Accountability**

### **A. 2010 Higher Education Report Card**

Mr. Rob Anderson, Senior Director of Policy and Planning, presented highlights from the *2010 West Virginia Higher Education Report Card*. Mr. Anderson noted that the report contains sections on statewide, regional, and national data and implications as well as detailed information and analysis about the state's public four-year colleges and universities under the jurisdiction of the Commission and the state's public two-year colleges under the jurisdiction of the Council for Community and Technical College Education. Mr. Anderson stated that the full report is available online.

### **B. 2010 Health Sciences and Rural Health Report Card**

Dr. Bob Walker, Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences, presented highlights from the *2010 Health Sciences and Rural Health Report Card*. Dr. Walker noted that the report contains various sections including enrollment, retention, graduation, loan indebtedness, and job placement. Dr. Walker indicated that, although the report is for medical education, it is very physician-oriented and reflects West Virginia's competitiveness with surrounding states for medical students.

Dr. Berry inquired as to the results of student tests prior to graduation and emphasized the importance of student preparation. Dr. Walker stated that licensure pass rates are included in the report and vary by institution.

Secretary Goodwin asked how much the State of West Virginia provides institutions to offset the cost for each medical student. Dr. Walker responded that it was difficult to establish a specific amount, but that student debt remains high. Dr. Leon addressed the issue for out-of-state student costs by noting higher student debt. Dr. Walker stated the next yearly report will emphasize graduate education.

### **C. Preliminary State Authorization for Tri-State College of Pharmacy**

This item was tabled for a future meeting.

### **D. Approval of 2010 Institutional Compact Updates**

Dr. Kathy Butler, Vice Chancellor of State Colleges and Senior Director of Academic Affairs, provided information regarding institutional involvement in the implementation of the Commission's Master Plan. Dr. Butler stated that the original institutional compacts were approved by the Commission on January 23, 2009 and the 2010 updates are the second in a series of required yearly updates regarding progress in meeting the goals outlined in the compacts. Dr. Butler provided an overview of the process utilized to evaluate the compact updates. A team of internal and external higher education officials participated in the review.

Dr. Butler noted that West Virginia State University's compact is currently under revision and will be presented at the April 29, 2011 Commission meeting. Chancellor Noland indicated adjustments would be made to the compacts in the future.

Mr. Tyson moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the 2010 institutional compacts for Bluefield State College, Concord University, Fairmont State University, Glenville State College, Marshall University, Shepherd University, West Liberty University, and West Virginia University.

Mr. Estep seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **E. Approval of Master of Arts in Teaching at Concord University**

Dr. Butler presented a proposal from Concord University to implement a Master of Arts in Teaching. Dr. Butler noted that limited or no additional budgetary resources will be necessary to initiate the program and any additional resources will be based on program growth and will be covered by tuition and fee revenues. Dr. Butler also noted that the program will be

subject to a post-audit review conducted by the Commission during the 2014-15 academic year.

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Master of Arts in Teaching to be implemented at Concord University, effective August 2011.

Mr. Estep seconded the motion. Motion passed.

#### **F. Approval of Chancellor's Diversity Initiative Report and Recommendations**

Dr. Jacob Gross, Research and Planning Analyst, and Dr. Brittan Hallar, Post Doctoral Research Assistant, provided an overview of the Chancellor's Diversity Initiative including the report and related recommendations.

Dr. Hallar thanked the members of the Diversity Council, which was established as a steering body consisting of educational, business, and community representatives from across the state as well as foundation representatives and national experts. She also reviewed the Council's definition of diversity.

Dr. Gross provided an overview of the recommendations of the initiative and reviewed the proposed timeline of implementation. Chairman Hendrickson requested the initiative be adopted with the current timeframes. Mr. Tyson emphasized the importance of the group's work.

Mr. Tyson moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Chancellor's Diversity Initiative Report and Recommendations to be implemented at the Commission and all institutions, effective February 2011.

Dr. Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **9. Innovation**

#### **A. Approval of Deed to City of South Charleston of Certain Roadways at the West Virginia Education, Research, and Technology Park**

Dr. Paul Hill, Vice Chancellor for Science and Research, provided an overview of the deed from the City of South Charleston, which states the City's intention to maintain and repair the main roads at the West Virginia

Education, Research, and Technology Park.

Secretary Goodwin moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the attached Deed transferring certain roadways at the West Virginia Education, Research, and Technology Park to the City of South Charleston.

Dr. Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## **B. Operations and Planning, West Virginia Education, Research, and Technology Park**

Dr. Hill provided an update regarding the on-going operation and future direction of the West Virginia Education, Research, and Technology Park. Dr. Hill provided a detailed working timeline with necessary activities and associated deadlines. Chairman Hendrickson commended Dr. Hill for his work on the transition of the Park to state ownership.

## **C. Amendments to Research Plans, West Virginia Research Trust Fund**

Dr. Hill provided an update for the West Virginia Research Trust Fund, also known as “Bucks for Brains”, which is in its third year of operation. Dr. Hill indicated that both Marshall University and West Virginia University have been granted authority to modify research plans. The Marshall University Board of Governors approved an addendum to expand its scope and allow officials to request and utilize funds for the engineering, mathematics, and physical science programs. The West Virginia University Board of Governors altered its strategic plan to add forensic sciences as an area of emphasis under the biometrics, security, sensing, and related identification technologies focus area; establish a library endowment; and remove language limiting fundraising amount for each of the focal areas.

## **10. Additional Board Action and Comment**

There was no additional board action or comment.

## **11. Possible Executive Session**

### **A. Approval of Presidential Selection, Contract and Compensation**

Mr. Tyson moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the appointment by the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine Board of

Governors of Dr. Michael Adelman as President of West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, under the terms and conditions established by the Board, and delegates to the Chancellor authority to approve, as to form, the contract between Dr. Adelman and the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine Board of Governors.

Dr. Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chairman Hendrickson and Chancellor Noland jointly thanked Dr. Rodney Fink, Chairman of the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, for his leadership and the selection of President Adelman. The Commission expressed its enthusiasm for the institution's future under the direction of President Adelman.

**12. 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