

**State of Indiana
Commission for Higher Education**

Minutes of Meeting

Thursday, September 14, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Commission for Higher Education met in regular session starting at 9:00 a.m. ET at Indiana University Southeast, 4475 Central Ave., Columbus, Indiana, 47203.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Members Present: Mike Alley, Dennis Bland, Jud Fisher, Bill Hanna, Al Hubbard, Nancy Jordan, Chris LaMothe, Dr. Chad Lochmiller, Pepper Mulherin, Dan Peterson, Tom Saunders, and Gen. Erika Steuterman.

Members Absent: Anne Bowen

CHAIR'S REPORT

I would like to welcome Dr. Chad Lochmiller to the Commission. Dr. Lochmiller is the new Faculty Commission member for the 2023-2025 term. Dr. Lochmiller serves as an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Education Leadership and Policy Studies at Indiana University. He brings a tremendous amount of experience and insight into education policy throughout K-12 and higher education.

I wanted to also add that Commission Member, Dennis Bland, now serves as our Chair of the Academic Affairs and Quality Committee. Thank you, Dennis.

I would like to make a quick note of a significant meeting regarding the presidents of our public institutions. In late November, the Governor will host a gathering at his residence for college and university leaders in Indianapolis. This is important because of the continuing effort to speak with one voice about why a postsecondary education matters. A previous meeting of this type helped with communication and strengthened the case for sustaining and increasing funding for education. The meeting will be another step in making the case for better-educated students, a stronger economy and a more enlightened state population.

On a broader topic, as we see the lag effect of the pandemic continue to unveil itself, one thing I have observed in East Central Indiana is the shrinking volunteer base within our communities. Besides a general lack of community support for several nonprofits, an absence of volunteers from local higher education institutions has been cited as a problem. An encouraging word from our colleges and universities might help turn this one part of the issue around.

This concludes my remarks for the day. I will now ask Dr. Debbie Ford, Chancellor of Indiana University Southeast to address the group today.

Dr. Debbie Ford (Chancellor of Indiana University Southeast) addressed the Commission.

Thank you, Chancellor Ford, and welcome to your new position. I will turn it over to Commissioner Lowery for his report.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT

Commissioner Lowery thanked all Commission members and welcomed Chancellor Ford. He also thanked the entire Indiana University Southeast team for welcoming him and allowing him to visit with students.

Commissioner Lowery reported on the following topics:

- CHE Reorganization
 - Commissioner Lowery reported the new Commission for Higher Education staff organization structure. Highlights include:
 - As part of the restructuring, CHE has selected the following to serve as the new Cabinet:
 - **Josh Garrison** serves as Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief of Staff. He also serves as second-in-command for the agency.
 - **Dr. Michelle Ashcraft** serves as the agency’s Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief Program Officer.
 - **Seth Hinshaw** serves as the agency’s Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief Financial Officer.
 - **Dr. Ken Sauer** continues to serve as the agency’s Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief Academic Officer.
 - CHE Executive Staff include:
 - **Rajinder Heir** serves as Associate Commissioner for Business Enterprise Solutions and Chief Technology Officer.
 - **Allison Kuehr** serves as Associate Commissioner for Marketing and Communications.
 - **Madison Prillwitz** serves as Assistant Commissioner for Strategic Partnerships and Events.
 - **Dr. Stacy Townsley** serves as Associate Commissioner for Adult Strategy.
 - **Vacant** - Associate Commissioner for Business Intelligence.
 - Commissioner Lowery gave an overview of the organization chart of each full team’s responsibilities.
- The HOPE Agenda Goals – Leading Indiana to be Top 10 in the nation by 2030
 - Commissioner Lowery re-introduced the HOPE Agenda goals to the Commission (listed below):
 1. Post-high school training and education going rates for youth and adults, across all demographics by leveraging tools such as the Frank

O'Bannon Grant, 21st Century Scholars program, the Indiana College Core, FAFSA completions, the Workforce Ready Grant, our low tuition and fees and our continuous focus on high quality;

2. Postsecondary attainment for veterans, individuals with disabilities and the justice-involved;
 3. Utilization of credit for prior learning to honor the work, training and education already achieved by adult learners;
 4. The rate at which Hoosiers successfully complete their chosen areas of study;
 5. Retaining talent once someone has graduated from a postsecondary training or education program;
 6. Measurable distinction in economic and social mobility and prosperity outcomes; and
 7. As the recognized state for growing or starting a business, based upon the strength of human capital.
- Statewide Tour
 - Throughout 2023-2024, Commissioner Lowery is set to travel to different regions across the state to share higher education news, meeting with:
 - Local media – TV, newspaper, radio, high school and university student papers
 - High schools and higher education institutions
 - Business leaders
 - Community partners, foundations and non-profits
 - Legislators
 - These stops will align with Commission meetings as often as possible and will be 1-2 days each month. The meetings will be a combination of sharing positive CHE news and facts and hearing from local community leaders.

II. CONSIDERATION OF THE MEETING MINUTES

R-23-5.1 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Minutes of the July 2023 regular meeting. (Motion – Alley, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

III. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

A. Resolution on Learning and Employment Records*

Al Hubbard presented this item and offered a motion to approve.

R-23-5.2 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the The resolution on Learning and Employment Records. (Motion – Hubbard, second – Mulherin, unanimously approved)

B. Academic Degree Programs for Expedited Action*

R-23-5.3 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science to be offered by Indiana University Northwest in collaboration with Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, Indiana University Kokomo, Indiana University Southeast and Indiana University South Bend, with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Saunders, second – Jordan, unanimously approved)

R-23-5.4 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Master of Science in Education in Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methodology to be offered by Indiana University Bloomington, with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Steuterman, second – Mulherin, unanimously approved)

IV. ADULT STRATEGY

A. Adult Strategy and Project Overview

Dr. Stacy Townsley presented this item.

B. Veterans' Taskforce Working Group Recommendations

Dr. Stacy Townsley co-presented this item with members of the Veterans' Taskforce Working Group

V. BUDGET ITEMS

A. Capital Projects for Full Discussion*

Dr. Tom Morrison, Diann McKee and Alecia Nafziger presented these items. Seth Hinshaw provided the staff recommendations.

R-23-5.5 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis Medical Education and Neurosciences Research Building build out. (Motion – LaMothe, second – Mulherin, unanimously approved)

R-23-5.6 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Indiana State University Center for Technology, Engineering and Design. (Motion – Jordan, second – Peterson, unanimously approved)

R-23-5.7 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Purdue University West Lafayette Hillenbrand Residence Hall South (Motion – Saunders, second – Hanna, unanimously approved)

R-23-5.8 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Purdue University West Lafayette Nursing and Pharmacy Education Building. (Motion – Alley, second – Saunders, unanimously approved)

R-23-5.9 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Purdue University West Lafayette Airport Terminal (Motion - Steuterman, second – Mulherin, unanimously approved)

B. Capital Projects for Expedited Action*

R-23-5.10 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves all eight Capital Projects for Expedited Action. (Motion – LaMothe, second – Alley, unanimously approved)

VI. CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)

A. 2023 State Strategic Plan*

Tony Harl presented this item.

R-23-5.11 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the 2023 State Strategic Plan. (Motion – Jordan, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

VII. PROGRAMS

A. Indiana Pre-Admissions and Indiana College Core Expansion

Dr. Michelle Ashcraft presented this item.

B. My College Core Website and Planning Tool

Jessica Barrett and Jillian Scholten presented this item.

VIII. MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Learn More Indiana and Indiana State Fair Update

Allison Kuehr, Doug Lintner and Arlen Taliaferro presented this item.

IX. LEGISLATION AND POLICY

A. 2023 Legislative Implementation Update

Josh Garrison and Greg Harrell presented this item.

X. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Academic Degree Programs Awaiting Action
- B. Academic Degree Program Actions Taken by Staff
- C. Media Coverage

**XI. OLD BUSINESS
NEW BUSINESS**
There was none.

XII. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 P.M. ET

Jud Fisher, Chair

Anne Bowen, Secretary