

**State of Indiana
Commission for Higher Education**

Minutes of Meeting

Thursday, December 9, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Commission for Higher Education met in regular session starting at 1:00 p.m. ET at Ivy Tech Community College, Corporate College and Culinary Center, 2820 N Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN with Chairman Mike Alley presiding.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Members Present: Mike Alley, Ed Berger, Dennis Bland, Anne Bowen, Jud Fisher, Bill Hanna, Al Hubbard, Chris LaMothe, Pepper Mulherin, Chris Murphy, Dan Peterson and Beverley Pitts

Members Absent: John Popp

CHAIR'S REPORT

Good afternoon. I would like to invite Dr. Lorenzo Esters for welcoming remarks.

Dr. Esters provided his welcome.

Thank you for those words of welcome, and many thanks to you and your staff for your hospitality and for hosting our meeting today.

Please remember that the 2021 Student Advocates Conference will be held virtually next week on December 15 and 16 and will emphasize the importance of integrated work experiences. The CHE staff have a great program planned with 33 breakout sessions and two excellent keynotes –we hope you register and plan to attend.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Lubbers began her report by stating, we look forward to hearing from Katie Jenner, the state's secretary of education, at our Public Square today. I know you will be impressed with her passion for the role and, most importantly, for the students who are served by our schools and teachers. As we work to align our educational pipeline, it's more important that our agencies are aligned, and they are – more than ever. We're working through the GWC and our agencies to determine the most impactful metrics and predictors for success. We'll be sharing with you this integrated dashboard in the coming months. We can't do our work at the Commission without more students being prepared for education beyond high school. As our college readiness report shows, we have made progress but have more work to do to ensure the new graduation pathways are designed to address gaps. Katie is knee-deep in ensuring that this is the case.

Last week we welcomed four new Padres Estrellas to our team/work. As you know, these “Star Parents” work in their communities to promote higher education opportunities to the Latino/Hispanic community. Created in 2019 with the encouragement and guidance of former Commission Member Alfonso Vidal and funded by GEAR UP dollars, our Padres Estrellas connect with Indiana schools, neighborhoods and community partners to promote the 21st Century Scholars Program, FAFSA completion and the Workforce Ready Grant. This brings us to eight members covering the central, northeast, northwest, southeast and central regions.

I also met with Tanya McKinzie, the president of Indiana Black Expo, last week to discuss additional ways to partner with organizations like hers that are serving minority students. She shared her commitment to work to increase participation in the Scholars Program and overall college-going rates. As we continue to see disparity in these numbers for minority students, these partnerships, as well as our engagement with schools, will be essential to turning the numbers around.

As we continue to amplify our work around career relevance and as the chair highlighted, we’re looking forward to our Student Advocates Conference on December 15 and 16. Again, these efforts align with the work that is taking place in the K-12 sector around work-based learning and with our partners at the Department of Workforce Development and external partners such as the State Chamber. Increasing the value proposition of higher education depends on making our case to Hoosiers that what they’re learning is directly related to career opportunities and economic mobility. At the Student Advocates Conference, we will have the opportunity to reach hundreds of ambassadors who can help us in the efforts – building on our ongoing work with employers.

Finally, I want to call out a recent announcement by Ivy Tech to discontinue the practice held by most institutions to withhold transcripts of students who have an outstanding balance. While the balance isn’t forgiven, it will no longer be an obstacle to continue their education. This is a very important policy change that will have a very positive impact on students.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER, 2021 COMMISSION MEETING

R-21-9.1 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Minutes of the November, 2021 regular meeting. (Motion – LaMothe, second – Berger, unanimously approved)

II. PUBLIC SQUARE

A. K-12 Education in Indiana

1. Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

The Commission’s strategic plan, *Reaching Higher in a State of Change*, emphasizes the importance of aligning our entire education pipeline while ensuring the successful passage of today’s learners through each phase of their educational journey and beyond.

The Commission will be joined by Dr. Katie Jenner, Indiana’s first Secretary of Education, for a discussion on the importance of aligning our secondary and postsecondary education system to ensure every Hoosier has an opportunity at a fulfilling career.

III. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Board for Proprietary Education Overview

In 2012, the General Assembly eliminated the Commission on Proprietary Education (COPE), whose responsibilities were split between the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and Board for Proprietary Education (BPE), which is administered, led, and staffed by the Commission for Higher Education. Credit-bearing, degree-granting institutions, with or seeking accreditation from a body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, became the responsibility of BPE.

BPE currently authorizes 29 institutions with 33 campuses in Indiana. Of these 29 institutions, 20 are private, for-profit, while the remaining 9 are private, not-for-profit. Twenty-five are accredited by national, institutional, or specialized, programmatic accreditors, while four are still seeking accreditation.

BPE institutions offer programs at all levels, ranging from undergraduate certificates to doctoral programs. Most degree programs are offered in education or health-related fields.

Ross Miller and Dr. Ken Sauer presented this item.

B. Academic Degree Programs for Expedited Action

1. Master of Science in Athletic Training to be offered by Purdue University West Lafayette

R-21-9.2 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the following capital project, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Fisher, second – Hubbard, unanimously approved)

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Academic Degree Programs Awaiting Action
- B. Academic Degree Program Actions Taken by Staff
- C. Media Coverage
- D. Schedule of Upcoming Meetings of the Commission

V. OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:51 P.M. ET

Mike Alley, Chair

Anne Bowen, Secretary