

**State of Indiana
Commission for Higher Education**

Minutes of Meeting

Thursday, February 13, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Commission for Higher Education met in regular session starting at 1:00 p.m. at Vincennes University Aviation Technology Center, 2175 South Hoffman Road, Indianapolis, IN 46241, with Mike Alley presiding.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Members Present: Mike Alley, Dennis Bland, Trent Engbers, Jud Fisher, Coleen Gabhart, Lisa Hershman, Chris LaMothe, Dan Peterson and Alfonso Vidal

On the Phone: Chris Murphy, Beverley Pitts and John Popp

Members Absent: Jon Costas and Al Hubbard

CHAIR'S REPORT

On behalf of the Commission, I would like to thank Mike Gehrich and the Vincennes University staff for your hospitality hosting our meeting today.

As you all know, Lisa Hershman was recently appointed the Chief Management Officer of the U.S. Department of Defense. Our state and our country will be better served by her leadership in this role. Unfortunately for us, this means she must step down from the Commission as our 4th Congressional District representative.

Lisa has been a tremendous contributor to the Commission, serving as our Secretary and Vice Chair and on two committees, and among many other contributions. We have a resolution honoring Lisa for her service. I would like to ask Jud Fisher to read it.

R-20-02.1 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Resolution Honoring Lisa Hershman. (Motion – Fisher, second – Peterson, unanimously approved)

Lisa's replacement has yet to be appointed by the Governor's office but we hope to have an update on this by our next meeting.

Also, be sure to mark your calendars if you have not done so already for two other events coming up this year:

The Kent Weldon Conference for Higher Education will be held on Tuesday, April 7th this year. It will focus on the new strategic plan, Reaching Higher in a State of Change, and the

issue of the future of work and innovation. We are honored to have John Simpkins, Vice President of the Aspen Global Leadership Network with The Aspen Institute and Governor Eric Holcomb serving as our keynotes for the conference.

On Thursday, June 4th, the Commission will host the 21st Century Scholars 30th Anniversary Celebration in the afternoon at the Biltwell Event Center in Indianapolis. This event will begin with an awards ceremony honoring Indiana high schools with exemplary FAFSA and Scholar Success Program completion success. Then, the Commission will host a reception and short program celebrating 21st Century Scholars, with remarks by the Commissioner and a panel of distinguished alumni. This is a special event taking place this year in celebration of the 30th anniversary, and is possible by the generous support of the Lumina Foundation.

We can expect to hear more about these events in the coming months.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Lubbers began her report stating on behalf of the staff, acknowledging our deep support to Lisa Hershman for the council she has provided through these years. It's been a pure delight to have her with us on a personal level. On a professional level her strategic thinking has helped us so many times and one of the reasons the Department of Defense is so grateful to have her as the highest ranking woman ever confirmed by the US Senate for this position – and a Hoosier as well. Monday, Lisa Hershman was sworn in by Vice President Pence as Chief Management Officer at the Department of Defense.

I'd like to thank those of you who were able to attend the State of Higher Education address on Tuesday. We were pleased that the audience represented a broad cross section of our stakeholders – college and university leaders, policymakers, students and community and philanthropic leaders. Since this was our official launch of *Reaching Higher in a State of Change* it was important to have those who helped in the development of the plan present for its launch. Of course, special thanks go to each of you on the commission for your engagement throughout the past year. I hope you appreciate that my strongest words of appreciation are reserved for the key staff members who worked so hard to deliver a quality product – in particular, Stephanie, Liz, Charlee and Doug.

Tuesday was also a special day as we kicked off the 30th Anniversary of the 21st Century Scholars Program. More than 100 scholars were present throughout the day, meeting with legislators and sharing their stories of why the program was life-changing for them. President Pro Tempore Rod Bray and Speaker of the House Brian Bosma introduced resolutions in support of the Scholars Program.

I've provided the executive summary of the State of Indiana's draft of our Combined Plan under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). This is important for us, too, since the plan was developed by the Governor's Workforce Cabinet and will serve as the state plan for the next four years – focused on aligning early childhood education through careers and lifelong learning. Public comment is being accepted through March 9.

A new report was recently released by the Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce – expanding on the federal College Scoreboard to rank 4500 colleges and universities by return on investment. Entitled: A First Try at ROI: Ranking 4500 Colleges. Key findings:

- Bachelor’s degrees from private colleges, on average, have higher returns on investment decades out
- Colleges that primarily award associate degrees have the highest short-term return
- In the long term (ten years after enrollment) – bachelor’s degrees surpass most two-year credentials
- Public colleges, where tuition is lower and students have less debt, lead to better returns than private colleges at the 10 year mark.

The report states that while these findings hold true for many schools, there are notable exceptions.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER, 2019 COMMISSION MEETING

R-20-02.2 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Minutes of the December, 2019 regular meeting. (Motion – Fisher, second – Peterson, unanimously approved)

II. PUBLIC SQUARE

A. Addressing Equity through Affordability

1. Joe Wood, President & CEO, INvestEd
2. Bill Wozniak, Vice President of Marketing, INvestEd

As the Commission continues to implement the charges of *Reaching Higher in a State of Change*, it will have the opportunity to discuss how affordability strategies help address educational equity. The Commission will be joined by INvestEd’s President and CEO, Joe Wood, and Vice President of Marketing, Bill Wozniak.

Colby Shank facilitated the discussion.

III. Business Items

A. Academic Degree Programs for Expedited Action

1. Bachelor of Science in Education in Counseling and Student Services to be offered by Indiana University Bloomington
2. Doctor of Philosophy in Aviation Technology and Management to be offered by Purdue University West Lafayette
3. Master of Science in Defense Engineering and Technology to be offered by Purdue University West Lafayette

R-20-02.3 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the following academic degree programs, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Fisher, second – LaMothe, unanimously approved)

B. Capital Projects for Full Discussion

1. Indiana University Bloomington – Lease of Space – The Avenue on College

Dr. Tom Morrison presented this project. Alexa Deaton provided the staff recommendation.

R-20-02.4 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 – Vidal, second – Hershman, unanimously approved)

2. Purdue University West Lafayette – 2550 Northwestern Avenue Renovation

Susan Brock-Williams presented this project. Alexa Deaton provided the staff recommendation.

R-20-02.5 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 – Bland, second – Vidal, unanimously approved)

3. Purdue University West Lafayette – Bands and Orchestras Building

Susan Brock-Williams presented this project. Alexa Deaton provided the staff recommendation.

R-20-02.6 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 – LaMothe, second – Vidal, unanimously approved)

4. Purdue University West Lafayette – Data Science Building

Susan Brock-Williams presented this project. Alexa Deaton provided the staff recommendation.

R-20-02.7 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 – Gabhart, second – Vidal, unanimously approved)

C. Capital Projects for Expedited Action

1. IUPUI – IU Innovation Center Second Floor Renovation
2. Indiana University Kokomo, Northwest, Southeast, and South Bend – Regional Campus Deferred Maintenance – Phase IV
3. Purdue University West Lafayette – Aspire at Discovery Park
4. Purdue University West Lafayette – Child Care Facility
5. Indiana State University – Demolition of Lincoln Quad Student Housing

R-20-02.8 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 – Peterson, second – Fisher, unanimously approved)

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

IV. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Fisher provided an update on Ball Brothers Foundation and one of their partnerships, an initiative known as Optimus Primary, created through collaborative efforts in the Muncie community. The physician training program is the largest in the state outside of Indianapolis. Prior to Optimus Primary starting, on average five medical education students were choosing Muncie as their primary place to go. In the past year, 90 medical education students requested Muncie as their campus of choice. Optimus Primary seeks to: help foster an even stronger team culture within the local healthcare cluster; recruit the best medical professionals to train--and stay--in our community, and; make Muncie widely known as a center of excellence in healthcare training. Since the effort began in 2016 in collaboration with the IU School of Medicine-Muncie and IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital, the Optimus Primary effort has gained strong momentum, attracting additional collaborative university partners, health delivery partners, and community college partners. In that same period, Ball Brothers Foundation has awarded over \$1.7 million to support local projects aimed at supporting the objectives listed above.

Mr. Fisher stated he is grateful for Rick Hall's chairmanship of Ball State University's Board of Trustees, yet is excited to work with Renae Conley as the new chair.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:39 P.M.

Al Hubbard, Chair

Mike Alley, Secretary