

**State of Indiana
Commission for Higher Education**

Minutes of Meeting

Thursday, March 12, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Commission for Higher Education met in regular session starting at 1:00 p.m. at Indiana University Purdue University at Indianapolis, 875 N. West Street, Indianapolis, IN 46201, with Al Hubbard presiding.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

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

On the Phone: Chris Murphy and Beverley Pitts

Members Absent: Jon Costas

CHAIR'S REPORT

On behalf of the Commission, I would like to thank Chancellor Nasser Paydar and the Indiana University staff for your hospitality and hosting our meeting today.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Lubbers began her report stating during this morning's meeting, we provided updates on several important Commission activities, including the legislative session (that finished last night), the recent release of the 2020 College Value Report, and efforts underway to communicate our strategic plan with the media and those groups that are essential to its success. All of these activities are ongoing: implementation of new legislation and preparation for the upcoming budget session; refining the College Value Report; and working on year one agenda items in the strategic plan.

One issue not in the strategic plan and that we didn't plan for was the impact of the coronavirus on our colleges and universities. The Commission has been working as the intermediary between the Indiana State Department of Health and appropriate contact at our public, private and proprietary schools – providing updated information and recommendations. It's clear that each institution is taking responsible steps to address the current situation and plan for the future. Initially, the response has been focused around travel but also includes heightened cleaning protocols, establishing relationships with health professionals, and planning for online learning options. Earlier this week, I sat in on a call in the Governor's Office together with our Governor and many others from throughout the country with Vice President Pence and his team to get a status report and ways the federal government can assist states from both a safety and financial standpoint.

Based on concerns and as a cautionary measure, we did cancel interviews scheduled for this Saturday for the Next Generation Hoosier Educator Scholarship. Between those being interviewed, interviewers, and family members, we would have had about 600 people at the Ivy Tech Indianapolis campus. There were concerns raised by family members and others. Knowing that some would not participate made it difficult to have others interviewed and ensure a “fair” process. The good news is that we had made it clear that if weather conditions or other issues required us to cancel, the decisions would revert to the earlier application score. We notified all involved on Tuesday.

On February 25th, I attended Lilly Endowment’s “Charting the Future for Indiana’s Colleges and Universities.” It was a well-attended event, including two dozen public and private college presidents. The Endowment has allocated up to \$108 million for the initiative, which has three phases: a planning phase in which all schools receive funding; an implementation phase and an invitational phase for large scale proposals. In acknowledgement of the financial stress faced by many institutions and the likely closure or merger of some, the Endowment is looking for leaders and innovative policies that will make schools more relevant, effective and sustainable. McKinsey and Company facilitated the meeting and provided information on topics ranging from: the future of work; innovative models for differentiating your value proposition to cooperative models in higher education.

It’s definitely worth noting that Purdue University recently announced that it will freeze tuition for the 9th straight year, holding it at 2012 levels through 2021-2022. According to the university, 59% of Purdue West Lafayette students graduated debt free in 2018, compared to 43% nationally.

Lastly, I wanted to provide a big picture overview of the work of the Governor’s Workforce Cabinet, especially as it aligns with our strategic plan. I have provided you with copies of the summary of the new combined WIOA plan that focuses on an agenda for talent development for all Hoosiers. Doug and Stephanie worked with the GWC staff to develop “A Better Future for Every Hoosier.” Like CHE’s plan, it includes measuring progress toward the 60% goal, improvement in the median household income, and student engagement and career preparation (including all postsecondary programs having career relevance).

CONSIDERATION OF THE BYLAWS AMENDMENT

R-20-03.1 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Bylaws amendment in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Peterson, second – Fisher, unanimously approved)

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY, 2020 COMMISSION MEETING

R-20-03.2 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Minutes of the February, 2020 meeting. (Motion – Fisher, second – Alley, unanimously approved)

II. PUBLIC SQUARE

A. Increasing Completion Through Coordinated Student Support

1. Dr. Tim Renick, Senior Vice President for Student Success and Professor of Religious Studies, Georgia State University

As the Commission continues to implement the charges of *Reaching Higher in a State of Change*, it will have the opportunity to discuss how coordinated student success strategies help increase college completion.

III. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. 2020-2021 Frank O'Bannon Grant Schedule of Awards

R-20-03.3 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the 2020-2021 Frank O'Bannon Grant Schedule of Awards, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – LaMothe, second – Vidal, unanimously approved)

B. Performance Funding Per-Unit Payments

R-20-03.4 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Performance Funding Per-Unit Payments, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – LaMothe, second – Vidal, unanimously approved)

C. Academic Degree Programs for Expedited Action

1. Master of Science in Data Science to be offered by Ball State University

R-20-03.5 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the following academic degree program, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Vidal, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

D. Capital Projects for Expedited Action

1. Ball State University – STEM and Health Professions Phase III

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 – Bland, second – Vidal, unanimously approved)

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Academic Degree Programs Awaiting Action

B. Academic Degree Actions Taken By Staff

C. Media Coverage

V. OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 P.M.

Al Hubbard, Chair

Mike Alley, Secretary