

COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Friday, December 9, 2011

INFORMATION ITEM D: Minutes of the October 2011 Commission Working Sessions

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION WORKING SESSIONS

Thursday, October 13, 2011

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Commission for Higher Education met in working session starting at 5:30 p.m. (ET) at the Schnitzelbank Restaurant, Jasper, Indiana. Commission members in attendance were Gerald Bepko, Carol D'Amico, Susana Duarte de Suarez, Jud Fisher, Keith Hansen, Chris LaMothe, Marilyn Moran-Townsend, Chris Murphy, Eileen O'Neil Odum, George Rehnquist, Kent Scheller and Ken Sendelweck.

Absent were: Dennis Bland, Mike Smith

Staff present: Jason Bearce, Molly Chamberlin, Catisha Coates, Jason Dudich, Teresa Lubbers, Ken Sauer

II. DISCUSSION

President Richard Helton of Vincennes University opened the discussion with an overview of the Vincennes University Jasper Campus and its history. He noted the various programs and services provided on the campus and spoke about the future construction of the VU Jasper Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center. He concluded with listing the various businesses that would benefit from the new Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center and skills that will be taught at the facility.

Discussion then turned to Committee Reports from the various Committee Chairs.

The Academic Affairs Committee provided an update via Dr. Bepko in which he noted that the IU South Bend degree program for approval during the October Commission meeting will be withdrawn for further consideration. Additionally, Dr. Bepko noted that the new degree approval process and forms would be up for discussion during the full Commission meeting on Friday.

Mr. Dudich provided an update from the Budget and Fiscal Policy Committee related to the various legislative requirements of the Commission set forth by the General Assembly. Comments were made concerning the Entrepreneurship Inventory project, noting it would be

completed by the end of October, meeting the November 1, 2011 deadline. The Ivy Tech space study project is still on track and a report is due December 1, 2011. Mr. Dudich noted meeting with Ivy Tech regarding information for the project and beginning to work on a draft report. For the Financial Transparency project, Mr. Dudich noted that as of October 10, 2011 the seven public institutions have provided preliminary data to the Commission for review and placement on the Commission's website. A status report of this project is due on November 15, 2011 and Mr. Dudich hoped to have the project complete and updated before that date.

Ms. Lubbers spoke on behalf of the Student Success Committee regarding the success of the college cost estimator and the impact it has made on people understanding the cost of attending college. Mr. Murphy read an email he received regarding the Commission's College Cost Estimator and the positive feedback it received from individuals in Indiana.

Discussion then turned to the Academic Program Inventory (API) and was presented by Dr. Chamberlin. Dr. Chamberlin noted that while working on the API, several issues and concerns were noted and in working with the seven public institutions, were able to clean up the inventory. A handout was provided to each Commission member with the inventory of academic programs for each institution and Dr. Chamberlin noted that as new academic degree programs are approved, the inventory would be updated. Ms. O'Neil Odum asked if a date field could be added to indicate the year the program was approved and Dr. Chamberlin noted it can be included. Dr. Chamberlin also noted that inventory can include data such as number of degrees associated with each academic program in the inventory. Ms. Lubbers asked if Commission members could access this information online and run their own reports. Dr. Chamberlin noted that sometime in November or December that functionality would be available to Commission members. She noted staff is happy to run reports for members currently if additional information is requested.

Moving to academic degree programs approved by the Commission, Dr. Sauer provided a list to Commission members that noted each campus and academic degree programs approved by the Commission over the past several years. He noted roughly 124 degree programs approved by the Commission thus far, which include short-term certificates. Mr. LaMothe noted his appreciation of the work Dr. Sauer provided and wanted to understand how many degree programs the Commission has approved during the past. Mr. LaMothe noted that this is a starting point, but raised concerns over the proliferation of degrees by the public institutions. Ms. Duarte de Suarez inquired about the duplication of degree programs among institutions. Dr. Sauer noted that this can be the case, and that does happen from time to time. Mr. Fisher asked if the total figure of degree programs approved was a net figure. Dr. Sauer stated that it was, but there are far fewer degree program reductions than additions in the list. Dr. Bepko noted that Ivy Tech's list noted each campus and the degrees approved. Dr. Sauer noted that the list is for each campus because that is the way the degree programs are approved, thus Ivy Tech being broken out by campus rather than one system.

Finally, Commission staff provided an overview to Commission members regarding initiatives the Commission is engaged in regarding higher education. Mr. Bearce and Dr. Sauer provided the following information:

- American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) – Program focused on degree qualification profile, provided to 8 states including Indiana. Pairs community colleges and 4 year colleges to view degree qualifications in order to improve transfer between 2 and 4 year institutions.
- American Institutes for Research (AIR) – National group that examines degree programs and graduates from those degree programs and how successful those graduates are in the workforce. AIR would develop software, using data from the Indiana Workforce Intelligence System (IWIS), which would provide data regarding success of students in the workforce based on the type of degree. No timeframe was available at the time, but the project would take roughly 12 months to complete. The data would look over the last 5 years and would focus solely on Indiana residents.
- Midwest Higher Education Committee – An initiative related to the Tuning project what would tune academic degree programs across Illinois, Missouri and Indiana. The project would involve both Associate and Bachelor programs and could include both public and private institutions.
- Common Core State Standards – Various funding sources and interested parties (Lumina, Gates Foundation, etc.) are looking to states to get closer alignment between the K-12 system and the higher education system. The project would work to address remediation issues and would focus on assessments developed at the 11th grade level to keep students on track, develop additional courses beyond the 11th grade such as dual credit and advanced placement, and additional instruction support to teachers to help address education gaps. A 3 year grant of \$200,000 per year starting in November 2011. Joint program with CHE and DOE.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:15p.m. (ET).

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION WORKING SESSIONS

Friday, October 14, 2011

IV. CALL TO ORDER

The Commission for Higher Education met in working session starting at 7:45 a.m. (ET) at Vincennes University, Jasper, Indiana. Commission members in attendance were: Gerald Bepko, Ken Sendelweck, Carol D'Amico, Susana Duarte de Suarez, Jud Fisher, Keith Hansen, Chris LaMothe, Marilyn Moran-Townsend, Chris Murphy, Eileen Odum, George Rehnquist, Kent Scheller, and Ken Sendelweck.

Absent were: Dennis Bland and Mike Smith

Staff present: Jason Bearce, Molly Chamberlin, Catisha Coates, Jason Dudich, Teresa Lubbers, and Ken Sauer.

V. DISCUSSION

Dr. Sauer briefed members of the Commission on the proposed Schools of Public Health on Indiana University's Indianapolis and Bloomington campuses, which would be offered as a decision item during the business meeting to follow. In response to a question by Mr. Murphy, Dr. Sauer indicated that the decision to have two separate schools of public health rather than a single, core school spanning both campuses, was primarily motivated by the requirements of the national accrediting body, the Council on Education for Public Health. Ms. Lubbers noted that the perceived power of accrediting bodies was creating discontent in national higher education circles. Ms. Lubbers further noted that the Commission preferred IU's original inclination for a single, unified school of public health and asked that IU go on record to reaffirm its commitment to do so in the future if provided the opportunity.

Dr. Sauer then noted that a separate decision item to approve a Master of Science in Education Leadership at IU South Bend had been withdrawn from the Commission's October agenda.

Mr. Dudich briefed the Commission on the five capital projects on which they would be asked to take action. He specifically called attention to the two Purdue projects previously presented to the Commission in response to questions raised by members regarding costs and institutional priorities for each project. Mr. Murphy asked whether the state could be held financially liable for bonds issued by the institutions. Mr. Dudich responded that based on his discussions with the Indiana Finance Authority, the state does not issue debt and as such the financial liability resides with each institution.

Mr. Bearce briefed the Commission regarding initial statewide activities and media coverage resulting from the launch of the 2011 College GO! Week campaign.

The meeting concluded with a briefing by Mr. Dudich regarding the extension of the lease agreement for the Commission offices.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:00 a.m. (ET).