

**State of Indiana
Commission for Higher Education**

Minutes of Meeting

Thursday, March 14, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Commission for Higher Education met in regular session starting at 9:00 a.m. ET at Indiana State University, 220 N. 7th St., Terre Haute, Indiana 47809.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Members Present: Dennis Bland, Anne Bowen, Jud Fisher, Bill Hanna, Nancy Jordan, Chris LaMothe, Chad Lochmiller, Pepper Mulherin, Dan Peterson

Members Absent: Mike Alley, Al Hubbard, Tom Saunders, Erika Steuterman

CHAIR'S REPORT*

Per the Commission's bylaws, I convened the Officers' Nominating Committee on February 8 to select a slate of officers for the 24-25 academic year. The committee consisted of myself, Mike Alley, Pepper Mulherin, Dennis Bland, Chris LaMothe, and Bill Hanna. The committee recommends the following slate for approval as the next executive officer team for the Commission's governance: Chair, Dan Peterson; Vice Chair, Nancy Jordan; Secretary, Chad Lochmiller. We will now take a vote for the approved slate, effective on July 1, 2024.

R-24-2.1 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the new officer slate for the 2024-2025 academic year. (Motion – Jordan, second – Mulherin, unanimously approved)

This is technically my last meeting as Chair—due to a scheduling conflict, I won't be able to lead the May meeting. This realization caused me to pause and reflect on the ICHE and our work. I come at this from several different angles—as the President of one of the state's oldest large private foundations, as a business owner, as a citizen of a small rust-belt city that's working to redefine itself, as a husband, and father of two college students.

The world of higher education is incredibly complex—funding streams, enrollment pressures, the need to meet workforce needs, college tuition, and affordability—there are no simple, easy answers. As we begin today's meeting and as we look ahead to the work we have before us, I want to encourage us to stay focused. We know that over half of all jobs already require—or will require—some form of postsecondary credential. Our friends at the Lumina Foundation have extensively studied what's needed and at the Commission we've been working in concert to build systems and pathways with our state institutions that prepare students from all walks of life to graduate from high school and go on to some type of additional training or college experience. At its most basic level, this is good for individuals, it's good for communities, it's good for our state, and it's good for the nation. In

the past few years alone, I've been honored to watch as we've developed a deeper understanding of the complexities of our systems and how they are tied together—the impact of affordable childcare, strong K-12 public school systems, and the development of career pathways. I have watched stronger relationships develop between the Indiana Destination Development Corporation, IEDC, and Lilly Endowment working together on READI 2.0. All of this is important. Our future—at every level—is dependent on our ability to prepare the next generation of critical thinkers, problem-solvers, and innovators. This is the role of higher ed.

As we retain and attract people to our communities, remember that no one wants to live in a place they would not visit. Communities with higher education institutions in them have a unique place in the state because of their ability to act as enhanced cultural areas in a given region. We need to not only see graduates stay and work in our communities, but we need to increase and sustain the quality of place that will bring people from around this country and beyond into our communities to get educated, live, work, and play.

I will now turn it over to President Deborah Curtis, President of Indiana State University, to address the group.

President Deborah Curtis, President of Indiana State University, addresses the group.

Thank you, President Curtis. I will turn it over to Commissioner Lowery for his report.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Lowery thanked all Commission members and welcomed President Curtis.

Commissioner Lowery reported on the following topics:

Data Updates

2022 College Attainment

1. Lumina released the 2022 data to show Indiana's overall attainment is 53%.
 - a. This is a slight decrease from 2021 at 54%.
2. Indiana lost ground in sub-associate degree space, but the number of associate, bachelor's and graduate degree holders increased.
3. Competitively, we have not improved, but from 2012, Indiana has improved.
4. Reminder, the data are from 2022 and do not reflect the policies and programs implemented in the last year and through the HOPE Agenda.

Program Updates

FAFSA Application

1. FAFSA Requirement
 - i. Following the 2023 legislative session, high school seniors are required to file the FAFSA, with opt-out provisions available. Indiana is the 8th state to adopt a FAFSA completion requirement.

- ii. The Commission’s goal is to have at least 60% of high school seniors complete the current FAFSA by Indiana’s priority deadline, April 15, 2024.
- iii. Indiana currently ranks 28th for submissions.

Intermediary Capacity Building Grant

1. \$5 Million Awarded
 - i. The Commission awarded \$5 million to 25 approved intermediaries.
 - ii. The purpose is to strengthen connections between students and schools with employers and postsecondary institutions.
 - iii. The grant period will run from December 1, 2023, to June 30, 2025.

Career and Technical Education

1. CTE Strategic Plan and Perkins V State Plan
 - i. Draft plan has been posted online for public comment as of March 8, 2024.
 - ii. The Perkins State Plan is required by the U.S. Department of Education as a component of Indiana receiving federal Perkins funds.
 - iii. The State plan is due in May and covers the next 4 years.

Credit for Prior Learning (CPL)

1. CPL Model Policy Guidance
 - i. The state CPL model policy guidance supports the utilization of CPL across Indiana’s higher education institutions.
 - ii. Result of 3 targeted task force working groups comprised of 75 participants.
 - iii. The State CPL model policy guidance aims to increase statewide consistency of values & practices in 5 key areas:
 1. CPL value statement; Program and service design; Transcriptions and transferability; Standards for assessing CPL; Community, workforce, and employer partnerships.
 - iv. Next steps: Move into Phase IV of the CPL Collaboration Initiative beginning with a focus on military CPL implementation and providing professional development (e.g., webinars), technical assistance, and resource supports to the institutions to move forward with military CPL and CPL in general.

Strategic Management Process

HOPE Agenda Strategy and Plan Summary 2024

1. Vision
 - i. Indiana will be a top 10 state in the nation by 2030 in (a) measurable distinction in economic and social mobility and prosperity outcomes, and (b) as the recognized state for growing or starting a business, based upon the strength of human capital.
2. Strategic Objectives
 - i. Going Rate: Youth & Adults
 - ii. Attainment: Veterans, Individuals with Disabilities, & Justice-Involved

- iii. Credit for Prior Learning
- iv. Completion
- v. Graduate Retention
- 3. Strategic Initiatives
 - i. 21st Century Scholars; Outcomes-Based Performance Funding (OBPF); Indiana College Core; Indiana Pre-Admissions; FAFSA; Career & Technical Education (CTE); Career Discovery Meetings; Career Scholarship Accounts (CSAs); State Financial Aid; Transfer Single Articulation Pathways (TSAPs); e-Transcript; Career Coaching and Navigation
 - 1. Responsible Commission Staff: Dr. Michelle Ashcraft, Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief of Programs and Seth Hinshaw, Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief Financial Officer
 - 2. Current Metrics: Youth (31st), Adult (21st)
 - ii. FAFSA; Second Change Pell; Workforce Ready Grant; Career and Technical Education; Collegiate Purple Star
 - 1. Responsible Commission Staff: Josh Garrison, Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief of Staff and Dr. Ken Sauer, Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief Academic Officer
 - 2. Current Metrics: Veterans (47th), Disabilities (45th), Justice (43rd)
 - iii. AP Credit; IB Credit; CLEP Credit; Core Transfer Library; Indiana Credential Registry; Learning and Employment Records (LERs); CPL Clearinghouse 2.0
 - 1. Responsible Commission Staff: Dr. Ken Sauer, Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief Academic Officer and Josh Garrison, Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief of Staff
 - 2. Current Metrics: 7 states with CPL strategy; become the 8th
 - iv. CTE; CSAs; Crossing the Finish Line; TSAPs; Academic Performance Incentive Grants; Credential Completion Grants; e-Transcript; FAFSA; State Financial Aid; Career Discovery Meetings; Indiana Credential Registry; OBPF; College Success Grants; Teach Dual Credit Indiana (TDCI); STEM Teach; State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements; Board for Proprietary Education
 - 1. Responsible Commission Staff: Dr. Michelle Ashcraft, Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief of Programs and Josh Garrison, Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief of Staff
 - 2. Current Metrics: 13th (6-year graduation rate) from fall 2016 cohort
 - v. OBPF; Degree Program Reviews; Graduate Medical Education Board; LERs; Reciprocity; STEM Teach; TDCI; Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarships; EARN Indiana
 - 1. Responsible Commission Staff: Seth Hinshaw, Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief Financial Officer and Dr. Ken Sauer, Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief Academic Officer
 - 2. Current Metrics: 36th (age 25-35 w/associate degree or higher)
- 4. HOPE Agenda Strategic Planning Timeline
 - i. January 1, 2024—December 31, 2030

HOPE Goals – Individual Goals

1. 2024 HOPE Goal Dashboard – Summary and Timeline
 - a. Every CHE team member has 3 direct goals related to the HOPE Agenda.
 - i. All goals were finalized on January 29.
 - ii. As team members join the agency, they will immediately receive goals.
 - b. This strategy is new to the agency and has never been broken down at every level.
 - c. Individuals will meet quarterly with their supervisors throughout the year to gauge and determine support levels as needed.
 - i. Agency-wide quarterly check-ins will also occur.
2. Outstanding Individual Example
 - a. Tai Casmier, Public Policy Coordinator
 - i. HOPE Agenda Goals 1 and 5: Ensure the Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship receives at least 700 applications and doubles the number of applications from Black and Hispanic or Latino students by January 31, 2024.
 - ii. We received 945 total applications (58% increase from 598 in the previous year) with a 77% increase in applications from Black and Hispanic or Latino students.

CHE New Staff

CHE Staff Updates

1. Recent Hires
 - a. Outreach Coordinators
 - i. Ivon Perez Paulino, Northwest Region
 - ii. Bukola Fasipe, Marion County
 - b. Graduate Medical Education Coordinator
 - i. Lucas Norrington
 - c. Director of Adult Strategy Engagement
 - i. Davyd Hall

II. CONSIDERATION OF THE MEETING MINUTES

- R-24-2.2 RESOLVED:** That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Minutes of the March 2024 regular meeting. (Motion – Jordan, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

III. COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

A. 2024 Qualitative and Quantitative Research into Factors Impacting Postsecondary Enrollment in Indiana

Allison Kuehr presented this item.

IV. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

A. 2024 Legislative Update

Josh Garrison presented this item.

V. BUDGET ITEMS

A. 2025-2027 Budget Development

Seth Hinshaw presented this item.

B. Commission Bylaws

Seth Hinshaw presented this item.

C. Capital Projects for Full Discussion*

Alecia Nafzinger (Director, Government Relations and Fiscal Policy Analysis) presented the following five items. Seth Hinshaw provided the staff recommendations.

R-24-2.3 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Purdue University – Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr. School of Business Building (Motion – Peterson, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

R-24-2.4 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Purdue University – Fort Wayne Music Center Addition (Motion – Jordan, second – LaMothe, unanimously approved)

R-24-2.5 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Purdue University – Burke Boilermaker Aquatic Center Mechanical Project (Motion – LaMothe, second – Lochmiller, unanimously approved)

R-24-2.6 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Purdue University – Lux on Capitol Lease (Motion – Bowen, second – Hanna, unanimously approved)

R-24-2.7 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Purdue University – Third and West Lease (Motion – LaMothe, second – Jordan, unanimously approved)

Becca Polcz Rice (Vice President for Governmental Relations and Industry Engagement) presented the following three items. Seth Hinshaw provided the staff recommendations.

R-24-2.8 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the

Ball State University – Village Development – Performing Arts Center (Motion – LaMothe, second – Jordan, unanimously approved)

R-24-2.9 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Ball State University – Village Development – Hotel Ground Lease (Motion – Peterson, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

R-24-2.10 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Ball State University – Village Development – Center for Innovation (Motion – Lochmiller, second – LaMothe, unanimously approved)

D. Capital Projects for Expedited Action*

R-24-2.11 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Purdue University – Graduate House Parking Garage Demolition and Site Restoration (Motion – Lochmiller, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

R-24-2.12 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Indiana State University – Early Childhood Education Center (Motion – Lochmiller, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

R-24-2.13 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Ball State University – Site Land Purchase (Motion – Lochmiller, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

VI. CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)

A. CTE: Perkins State Plan Update

Tony Harl, Sam Rourke, and Laura Tucker presented this item.

VII. FRANK O'BANNON SCHEDULE OF AWARDS

A. Frank O'Bannon Schedule of Awards*

Josh Garrison presented this item.

R-24-2.14 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Frank O'Bannon Schedule of Awards (Motion – LaMothe, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

VIII. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

A. Updating the Commission's Policies on Regional Campuses and Purdue University Fort Wayne*

Dr. Ken Sauer presented this item.

R-24-2.15 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Updated Commission’s Policies on Regional Campuses and Purdue University Fort Wayne (Motion – LaMothe, second – Peterson, unanimously approved)

B. Academic Degree Programs for Expedited Action*

R-24-2.16 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art to be offered by the University of Southern Indiana (Motion – Lochmiller, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

R-24-2.17 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Master of Social Work to be offered by Purdue University Northwest (Motion – Lochmiller, second – Mulherin, unanimously approved)

IX. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

X. OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M. ET.

Jud Fisher, Chair

Anne Bowen, Secretary