

**State of Indiana  
Commission for Higher Education**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Thursday, February 10, 2022**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Commission for Higher Education met in regular session starting at 1:00 p.m. ET at Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis, 875 West North 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, Chris LaMothe, Pepper Mulherin, Chris Murphy, Beverley Pitts and Erika Steuterman

*Members Absent:* Bill Hanna, Al Hubbard, Dan Peterson and John Popp

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

Good afternoon. I was delighted to introduce Commissioner Lubbers at her final State of Higher Education Address on Tuesday evening. It was a fantastic speech that gave the State of Indiana a renewed focus on the importance of transforming higher education to meet diverse needs of learners and a changing economy. Many thanks to the staff who helped ensure the success of that event.

I am also pleased to announce the date of the Commission's annual H. Kent Weldon Conference for Higher Education, which will be held in person on April 12th this year and will continue the discussions that began at our event last fall on career relevance. The save the date and means to register will circulate by the end of the week.

I also want to provide an update on the activities of the Compensation Committee which reviews the performance of the Commissioner. The committee is chaired by Beverley Pitts and also includes Mike Alley and Jud Fisher. They met on January 19 to review Commissioner Lubbers' performance over the last year. The committee concluded she provided exceptional leadership to the Commission over the last year and recognized that. Consistent with provisions of the State Personnel Department, the committee recommended a pay increase on her exemplary job in 2021.

Finally, I want to share the search for the next Commissioner continues, with interviews of top candidates taking place throughout the month of February. We are ensuring throughout this process that those individuals remain confidential, but we are enthusiastic about the candidates thus far.

## COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Lubbers began her report by stating, I want to join the Chair and other Commission Members in thanking IU, President Whitten and Chancellor Paydar for a lovely evening and your gracious hospitality. I personally wanted to express gratitude for the President's Medal awarded to me. Last week I joined the virtual gathering for Chancellor Paydar's final report to the community and state. As always, it highlighted the significant progress that has been made at IUPUI under his leadership. He joined IUPUI in 1985 as an assistant professor of mechanical engineering and later became the chair of the Department of Engineering, associate dean for graduate programs and later academic programs. In 2004, he became vice chancellor and dean of Indiana University-Purdue University Columbus. In 2007, Nasser was appointed chancellor IU East – transforming that campus and its integration with the community and Ivy Tech. For the past six years, he has served with distinction and vision as IUPUI's fifth chancellor. There are so many other accomplishments I could cite about his leadership. In particular, I want to acknowledge his partnership with the Commission and his clear focus on student success. Our work has been informed and improved by his counsel and experience. Today we want to extend our thanks for your exemplary service and best wishes for your next chapter.

As Josh and Greg highlighted this morning, we are in the middle of an active legislative session. Education has been a main focus of the bills that are moving forward, providing us the opportunity to highlight the importance of higher education in meeting state needs. As we continue to build champions for a higher education agenda, it will be important to show both the challenges – as they were highlighted in my State of Higher Education Address – and the progress we're making to address them. Indiana is a national leader in aligning higher education with personal and state needs and we'll be doubling down on efforts to get that message across by working with other state agencies, institutions, employers and community leaders.

I want to highlight again one of the highly successful programs we're running and that is focused on meeting a specific workforce need – the recruitment, preparation and retention of teachers. In 2016, the General Assembly established the Next Generation Educator Scholarship to provide \$7500 each year for up to four years for high-achieving students who commit to teaching for at least five years in Indiana Schools. And it's working. 200 scholarships are available each year and this year 626 applications were submitted which represents a 43 percent increase compared to last year. Of the applications submitted, students of color submitted 57 which is a 50 percent increase for this population compared to last year. When I say it's working, what does that mean in terms of outcomes. For the first cohort (2017-18) 90 percent of the students are licensed teachers or pursuing additional education. Even though a relatively new program, today there are more than 210 educators currently teaching who have used the scholarship. At a time when we're dealing with teacher retirements and shortages this is a program that is working. The staff is in the process of interviewing the applicants. Those who are chosen to receive the scholarship will be notified on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

Internally, we have recently completed the performance review process for staff members. This provides a great opportunity for me to share with Commission Members that CHE is fortunate to have talented, committed employees who care about the job they do and the

mission we serve. When you have the opportunity please join me in thanking them for outstanding service.

## **CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER, 2021 COMMISSION MEETING**

**R-22-1.1 RESOLVED:** That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Minutes of the December, 2021 regular meeting. (Motion – Murphy, second – LaMothe, unanimously approved)

## **II. PUBLIC SQUARE**

### **A. Enhancing Student Success at IUPUI**

1. Dr. Nasser Paydar, Chancellor

The Commission’s strategic plan, *Reaching Higher in a State of Change*, emphasizes the importance of a higher education system that drives student success by focusing on the unique and diverse needs of individual learners. During his long-standing tenure as IUPUI Chancellor, Dr. Paydar has worked tirelessly to enhance student success, academic excellence, and community engagement while further strengthening the campus community. As he concludes his tenure as Chancellor, the Commission had the opportunity to discuss his efforts IUPUI to ensure student success.

## **III. BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **A. Indiana e-Transcript Program**

Dr. Ken Sauer and Tari Lambert provided an update and background information on the Indiana e-Transcript Program, data on the volume and destination of transcripts being sent, the rationale, including benefits to students, for sending transcripts aligned with national technical data standards, and the case for a resolution calling for the exchange of all college transcripts as data files.

**R-22-1.2 RESOLVED:** That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the following resolution, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Mulherin, second – Fisher, unanimously approved)

### **B. Academic Degree Programs for Expedited Action**

1. Professional Doctorate in Philanthropic Leadership to be offered by Indiana University at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis
2. Doctor of Health Science to be offered by Purdue University Global
3. Doctor of Education in Leadership and Innovation to be offered by Purdue University Global
4. Bachelor of Science in Education in World Languages to be offered by Indiana University at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis
5. Master of Science in Musculoskeletal Health to be offered by Indiana University at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

**R-22-1.3 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 – Murphy, second – Fisher, unanimously approved)

**C. Capital Projects for Full Discussion**

1. Purdue University West Lafayette – Aspire at Discovery Park Lease

Alecia Nafziger presented this item. Seth Hinshaw provided the staff recommendation.

**R-22-1.4 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 – Steuterman, second – Berger, unanimously approved)

**D. Capital Projects for Expedited Action**

1. Purdue University West Lafayette – Fuse West Lafayette Apartment Lease
2. Indiana University Bloomington Morrison Hall Renovation

**R-22-1.5 RESOLVED:** That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the following capital projects, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Fisher, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

**IV. INFORMATION ITEMS**

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

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was none.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 P.M. ET

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Mike Alley, Chair

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Anne Bowen, Secretary