

**State of Indiana
Commission for Higher Education**

Minutes of Meeting

Thursday, June 10, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Commission for Higher Education met in regular session starting at 1:00 p.m. in-person at Indiana University South Bend, 1700 E Mishawaka Ave, South Bend, IN 46615, with a virtual option via Microsoft Teams videoconferencing, with Beverley Pitts presiding.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Members Present: Mike Alley, Dennis Bland, Jon Costas, Trent Engbers, Jud Fisher, Al Hubbard, Chris LaMothe, Pepper Mulherin, Chris Murphy, Dan Peterson, Beverley Pitts, and John Popp

Members Absent: Anne Bowen

CHAIR'S REPORT

I am delighted to welcome you all back to our first campus visit in over a year. It is great to see all of you. I would like to invite Chancellor of IU South Bend, Dr. Susan Elrod, for welcoming remarks.

Chancellor Elrod provided remarks. Chris Murphy offered his remarks as a local community member of South Bend.

Thank you, Chancellor Elrod, for your welcoming remarks, and many thanks to you and your staff for your hospitality and hosting our meeting today.

I must report that we have two key members of our board departing this month. Our long-time member of the Commission, Jon Costas, has indicated that he will not be seeking reappointment for his term that concludes at the end of this month. And, as you know, Trent Engbers' term as our faculty member also concludes at the end of June. Jon and Trent have both been tremendous contributors to the Commission and we will certainly miss their insight as our faculty voice and our first district representative. We have resolutions honoring them for their service.

Chris Murphy offered the resolution for Jon Costas. Jon Costas provided remarks in response to the resolution.

R-21-04.1 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Resolution honoring Jon Costas. (Motion – Murphy, second – LaMothe, unanimously approved)

Beverley Pitts offered the resolution for Trent Engbers as chair of the AA&Q committee where he so dutifully served. Trent Engbers provided remarks in response to the resolution. Beverley Pitts and Chris LaMothe provided additional remarks.

R-21-04.2 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Resolution honoring Trent Engbers. (Motion – Costas, second – Fisher, unanimously approved)

These positions, as well as our 4th district position, have yet to be appointed by the Governor's office, but we hope to have an update on this in the coming weeks.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Lubbers began her report by stating, today's Commissioner's report is all about people – not programs, policies or funding.

Let me begin by joining Chair Pitts in recognizing the service of our two departing Commission members. The service provided by our faculty members is always important to the quality of our work – bringing the faculty voices to our work. No one has done this better than Trent Engbers. From day one his perspective enriched our discussions with thoughtful questions and an uncompromising commitment to the students we serve. We hope to keep Trent engaged in our work in the months ahead.

I hardly know how to adequately say thanks to Jon Costas for his many years of service to CHE. He has been the best kind of board member (which you all are, of course) – making us better through his insights and always having our back. When I interviewed for this job, Jon was the chair and I know his counsel through my deliberations made my decision clearer. So, on a personal level – thank you. He's a man of multiple talents – impactful government leader, visionary businessman, talented musician, dedicated community leader and the heart of a strong family. He is respected by all and it is with more than a little regret for the closing of this chapter of service that we express our profound gratitude.

And now, I want to recognize two exemplary higher education leaders. President Michael McRobbie is concluding his final days as the 18th President of Indiana University after 14 years in this role and nearly 25 years at IU, beginning his service as the first VP for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer. He served as VP for Research and Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. President McRobbie has been a transformational leader, and at the Commission we have been privileged to partner with him in supporting many of the academic changes, including the establishment of 10 new schools within the university. He led a Bicentennial strategic plan that has prepared IU for an even stronger future. All of us – students, alums, policymakers and employers – are grateful to President McRobbie for his service and wish him the very best in the next chapter.

It has also been our great pleasure to work alongside Dr. Kathy Lee in her service to Ivy Tech Community College as she concludes a 27-year career with the College. She became the Chancellor of Ivy Tech Community College Indianapolis in 2012 after serving in multiple roles – Director of Clinical Education for the Respiratory Care Program, Dean for the Health Sciences and Public Services Programs, and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs. She has led

Ivy Tech with vision for making the college stronger and passion for serving the students better. Ivy Tech and thousands of students are better because of her service. She's unflappable in the face of challenge, gracious in the way she serves and has been a true partner to the Commission throughout decades of changing leadership and priorities. But, bottom line: she always puts the students first. It is with great respect for Chancellor Lee's career that we express our gratitude, affection and best wishes.

For the past 19 years and at nearly every Commission Meeting, Susan Brock Williams has brought the Purdue University story to us. And Purdue has been fortunate to be represented by such a passionate advocate for the university and the students. Like the others, she is closing this chapter and her current role – this is her last meeting with us. On behalf of the Commission members and staff, I want to acknowledge your service and professionalism, Susan, along with your friendship. Keep us in your circle as you move to another chapter.

As you know, I've been recognizing past CHE leaders during the 50th Anniversary of the Commission. Today we honor the service of Dr. George Weathersby, who became the Indiana Commissioner of Higher Education in 1977. It so happens that our Sr. Associate Commissioner Ken Sauer served with him, and I've asked Ken to share a few brief remarks about the third Commissioner of Higher Education.

Dr. Sauer began by stating, George Weathersby came here as commissioner in 1977 and was in office for six years, leaving in 1983 at the end of Governor Bowen's administration and the beginning of Governor Orr's administration. George had stellar academic credentials, with faculty and administrative appointments at Harvard and UC Berkeley. He was very much into decision theory and quantitative modeling planning and through that work, he got involved in some of the work going on at National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, NCHEMS. That kind of connection with NCHEMS had an impact on staffing here. When George became commissioner here, he asked Wayne Kirschling, who headed the research and analysis unit at NCHEMS, to come here as deputy commissioner. After that, Kent Weldon, who was also in Wayne's unit at NCHEMS, joined the staff. Many of you here had the privilege of knowing Kent. Finally, a third member of that staff, myself, wound up coming here as well. We recreated, at least in part, the research and analysis unit at NCHEMS. George was a first-rate person to work with, and he had a positive impact on the Commission. It's the professionalism of the staff that I think has continued to the present day.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY, 2021 COMMISSION MEETING

R-21-4.3 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Minutes of the May, 2021 regular meeting. (Motion – LaMothe, second – Murphy, unanimously approved)

II. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. 2021 College Completion Report

The Commission for Higher Education’s annual College Completion Report provides a comprehensive picture of college completion in order to advance Indiana’s efforts to reach our goal of at least 60 percent of Hoosiers with a quality degree or credential beyond a high school diploma by 2025.

The Commission’s annual Completion Report measures the proportion of learners who complete their degree or certificate by campus, providing trends for each public institution, and highlights progress and challenges as we continue to increase college completion in Indiana.

The state measures college completion in two ways: on-time completion (students graduate within two years for an associate degree or four years for a bachelor’s degree) and extended time completion (students graduate within six years of beginning any degree program). Despite the disruption caused by COVID-19, the 2021 Indiana College Completion Report reveals upward trends for on-time and extended completion rates for Indiana’s two- and four-year campuses in 2020.

Over 44 percent of all Hoosier college students graduated on-time – an increase of almost 2 percentage points from 2019. Nearly two-thirds (63.6 percent) of all students graduated within six years, an improvement of over 1.5 percentage points. Along with one-year increases, the data show five-year gains of more than 12 percentage points in on-time graduation and 9 percentage points in extended-time completion.

B. Bilateral Reciprocity Agreement

1. Bilateral Reciprocity Agreement: Indiana - Ohio

Since 2004, Indiana and Ohio have had agreements to provide reciprocal in-state tuition for residents from specified counties who attend specified postsecondary institutions in the other state. The agreement has been renewed at least eight times in the last 15 years. The last two agreements have been two-year agreements.

Since inception, the guiding principle has been that reciprocity students would be treated as residents of the state for the purpose of assessing tuition and fees.

From the student perspective, the rationale for the reciprocity agreement is to improve affordable access to degree programs, which in some cases a student would otherwise not be able to access. From the state perspective, the rationale for the reciprocity agreement is expanding student access to degree programs without having to invest state resources into developing stand-alone new programs at Indiana institutions, which in some cases may only appeal to a limited number of students. From an institutional perspective, the rationale for the reciprocity agreement is to increase revenue by filling seats in classes that otherwise may go unfilled.

In Fiscal Year 2019-20, 267, or 34 percent, more Indiana students attended Ohio institutions than Ohio students attended Indiana institutions (1,063 vs. 796, respectively); these figures are slightly more than those for FY 2018-19 (1,052 vs. 748, respectively).

The attached agreement reflects the status quo, with two minor modifications to the prior agreement:

- Adding language that includes the applied baccalaureate degree among the programs Ohio institutions may offer to Indiana residents; and
- Adding language that includes the “General Motors Automotive Service Educational Program” to the list of offerings Owens Community College may offer to Indiana residents.

R-21-4.4 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the following reciprocity agreement, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Murphy, second – LaMothe, unanimously approved)

2. Bilateral Reciprocity Agreement: Indiana-Kentucky

In 1991, Indiana and Kentucky entered into a limited agreement to provide reciprocal in-state tuition for residents from specified counties who attend specified postsecondary institutions in the other state. The agreement has been renewed 11 times in the last two decades. The last two agreements have been four-year agreements.

Since inception, the guiding principle has been that reciprocity students would be treated as residents of the state for the purpose of assessing tuition and fees.

From the student perspective, the rationale for the reciprocity agreement is to improve affordable access to degree programs, which in some cases a student would otherwise not be able to access. From the state perspective, the rationale for the reciprocity agreement is expanding student access to degree programs without having to invest state resources into developing stand-alone new programs at Indiana institutions, which in some cases may only appeal to a limited number of students. From an institutional perspective, the rationale for the reciprocity agreement is to increase revenue by filling seats in classes that otherwise may go unfilled.

In Fiscal Year 2019-20, 751, or 37 percent, more Kentucky students attended Indiana institutions than Indiana students attended Kentucky institutions (2,780 vs. 2,029, respectively); these figures are slightly less than those for FY 2018-19 (3,053 vs. 2,031, respectively).

The attached agreement reflects minor modifications to prior agreements; the most important are:

- Indiana University Southeast including Purdue Polytechnic, which may draw students from the addition of Henry County, Kentucky; and
- The addition of Elizabeth Community and Technical College at Meade County locations, which may draw students from the Indiana counties of Crawford, Harrison, and Perry.

R-21-4.5 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the following reciprocity agreement, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Murphy, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

C. Commission for Higher Education Fiscal Year 2022 Spending Plan

Article VIII Section 1 of the Commission for Higher Education’s Bylaws requires the Commissioner to present a recommended budget showing anticipated revenues from all sources and expenditures for the next fiscal year no later than the first month of each fiscal year. The Commissioner has delegated this responsibility to Finance staff. Staff have developed a spending plan that reflects appropriations made by the Indiana General Assembly in addition to other sources of revenue. The annual operating budget is functionally characterized by program: administration, outreach, student financial aid, private grants and federal grants. The Budget & Productivity Committee reviewed this spending plan on May 27, 2021. Staff requests authorization to work with the State Budget Agency to implement necessary management reserves and other budget policies for Fiscal Year 2022.

R-21-4.6 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Commission for Higher Education Fiscal Year 2022 Spending Plan. (Motion – Murphy, second – Bland, unanimously approved)

D. Commission Bylaw Update

HEA 1437 made changes to Indiana’s Open Door Law. We are adjusting our bylaw to accommodate those changes. The legislation prescribes specifics around electronic participation in meetings.

R-21-4.7 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Commission Bylaw Update (Motion – Murphy, second – Popp, unanimously approved)

E. Capital Projects for Full Discussion

1. Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) – Dunlap Interior Reno First and Second Floors

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

R-21-4.8 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 – Murphy, second – LaMothe, unanimously approved)

1. Purdue University West Lafayette – Hypersonics and Applied Research Facility

Anne Hazlett presented this item. Alexa Deaton provided the staff recommendation.

R-21-4.9 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 – Murphy, second – LaMothe, unanimously approved)

F. Capital Projects for Expedited Action

1. Purdue West Lafayette – Secure Research Facility

R-21-4.10 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 – Alley, unanimously approved)

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Academic Degree Programs Awaiting Action

B. Academic Degree Actions Taken by Staff

C. Media Coverage

IV. OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 P.M.

Beverley Pitts, Chair

Jud Fisher, Secretary