

**State of Indiana
Commission for Higher Education**

Minutes of Meeting

Thursday, October 14, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Commission for Higher Education met in regular session starting at 1:00 p.m. ET virtually via Microsoft Teams videoconferencing, 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, Al Hubbard, Chris LaMothe, Pepper Mulherin, Dan Peterson, Beverley Pitts, and John Popp

CHAIR'S REPORT

Good afternoon! It is great to see all of you today. I would like to invite Dr. Kathryn Girten, Chancellor here at Indiana University East, for welcoming remarks.

Dr. Girten provided remarks.

Chairman Alley continued his report stating, we hope you will mark your calendars and make plans to attend two upcoming events the Commission is hosting this fall:

- The Career Relevance Convening will bring educators and employers together for an in-depth discussion on the importance of career relevant experiences being embedded in all postsecondary programs, which aligns with one of the key metrics within our strategic plan. The event will be held virtually on Tuesday, November 2 and will feature Pete Yonkman, President of Cook Group as our keynote speaker. Registration is open.
- The 2021 Student Advocates Conference will be held virtually on December 15 and 16 and will emphasize the importance of integrated work experiences that help students apply their learning, connect with employers and develop marketable skills. Registration for the event will be available soon, so please mark your calendars until then.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Lubbers began her report by stating, I want to join Chairman Alley in thanking IU East and Chancellor Girten for a delightful visit to the campus. It's also great that Senator Raatz adjusted his schedule so he could visit with us in his hometown.

As we continue to work on the career relevance metric of our strategic plan, I thought it would be helpful to highlight some of the takeaways from the Indiana Chamber of Commerce's 14th Annual Employer Survey. Some of the major points include:

- Nearly 3 out of 4 employers indicated that their supply of applicants does not meet their needs, compared to 50% in 2020.
- 62% of employers said meeting their talent needs was among their biggest challenges, with 21% saying it is their top challenge. Both numbers are at the highest point in the past three years.
- Over half of employers offer college internships, and almost a quarter offer high school internships. College is a 13% increase from 2019; high school is a 3% increase from 2019.
- Additionally, about 30% of employers report they do not offer any work-based learning opportunities, but this is still a 10 percentage point improvement since 2019.
- 45% of employers are aware of Next Level Jobs – a 7 percentage point increase since 2019.

Indiana’s recovery since COVID has been strong with a current unemployment rate of 4.1%, below the national average of 5.2%. But long-term growth and personal economic mobility depend on a better prepared workforce.

As we plan our November 2 Employer/Educator Convening around career relevance, these are important findings to integrate into our thinking.

In recognition of the Commission’s 50th Anniversary, today’s honoree is O.C. Carmichael, Jr., the first chairman of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education – and also, notably, Chris Murphy’s father-in-law. Dr. Carmichael was instrumental in the creation of the Commission and a strong advocate for higher education. He held a degree from Vanderbilt – where he also served as director of development and dean of students - as well as degrees from Duke and Columbia. In addition to serving as the Commission’s chair, he was a trustee of the University of Notre Dame. He was a recognized leader in education, having served as a college president and trustee for, I believe, five institutions of higher education. Likewise, his business acumen in banking and financial services was exceptional as chairman of the Associates Corporation and other companies. O.C. Carmichael was a civic, political, educational, business and thought leader. We were certainly fortunate for his tenure as the first chair of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER, 2021 COMMISSION MEETING

R-21-7.1 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Minutes of the September, 2021 regular meeting. (Motion – LaMothe, second – Fisher, unanimously approved)

II. PUBLIC SQUARE

A. Indiana Graduation Pathways

1. Senator Jeffrey Raatz, Chair of the Senate Education and Career Development Committee

The Commission will have the opportunity to hear from Indiana Senator Jeffrey Raatz on issues related to the 2018 Indiana Graduation Pathways legislation, the impact of the

COVID-19 pandemic on student learning, and HEA 1514-2021, which requires the State Board of Education to develop a new accountability dashboard that looks at longitudinal outcomes and factors outside of test scores.

Commissioner Lubbers moderated this discussion.

III. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Academic Degree Programs for Expedited Action

1. Bachelor of Science in Quantitative Economics to be offered by Indiana University at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis
2. Doctor of Philosophy in Nutrition to be offered by Indiana University Bloomington

R-21-7.2 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 – Fisher, second – Pitts, unanimously approved)

B. Capital Projects for Full Discussion

1. Purdue University West Lafayette – Schleman Hall, Steward Center, and Related Renovations

Alecia Nafziger presented this item. Alexa Deaton provided the staff recommendation.

R-21-7.3 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 – Murphy, second – Popp, unanimously approved)

2. Purdue University West Lafayette – Whistler Hall of Agricultural Research Mechanical Systems Replacement

Alecia Nafziger presented this item. Alexa Deaton provided the staff recommendation.

R-21-7.4 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 – Peterson, second – Fisher, unanimously approved)

C. Capital Projects for Expedited Action

1. Purdue University West Lafayette – Biochemistry Building Main Electrical Distribution Replacement
2. Ivy Tech Community College – Sellersburg Pfau Hall Renovation to Health Science Wing and Life Science Classrooms
3. Ball State University – New Grand Lawn Amphitheater

R-21-7.5 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 – Fisher, second – Peterson, unanimously approved)

D. Administrative Hearing Authority

The Commission’s Student Success Committee serves as the administrative law judge to preside over the Commission’s administrative appeals. Pursuant to Ind. Code § 4-21.5-3-9, the Commission will grant the Office of Administrative Law Proceedings (OALP) the authority to preside over certain administrative hearings on behalf of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. The Commission delegates the OALP authority to preside over any and all future administrative hearings that may be pursued by an aggrieved petitioner starting October 1, 2021, unless the Commission, in its sole discretion, decides to preside over a given matter.

R-21-7.6 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the following resolution, in accordance with background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Peterson, second – Mulherin, 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 1:49 P.M. ET

Mike Alley, Chair

Anne Bowen, Secretary