

**State of Indiana
Commission for Higher Education**

Minutes of Meeting

Thursday, August 11, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Commission for Higher Education met in regular session starting at 9:00 a.m. ET at Ball State University 2800 West Bethel Avenue, Muncie, IN 47306, with Chairman Mike Alley presiding.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Members Present: Mike Alley, Dr. Edward Berger, Dennis Bland, Anne Bowen, Jud Fisher, Bill Hanna, Al Hubbard, Nancy Jordan, Pepper Mulherin, Dan Peterson, Tom Saunders and Erika Steuterman

Members Absent: Chris LaMothe, Mike Daigle

CHAIR'S REPORT

Good afternoon and thank you everyone for joining us today. I would like to invite President of Ball State University, Dr. Geoffrey Mearns, to offer welcoming remarks.

President Mearns provided remarks.

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

We are pleased to welcome two new members to the Commission today. Nancy Jordan of Fort Wayne is the senior consultant with Bulldog Consulting Services. Rep. Tom Saunders of Lewisville is a retiring state representative.

Ms. Nancy Jordan and Rep. Tom Saunders introduced themselves.

In addition to Nancy and Tom, I also want to welcome Mike Daigle of South Bend. Mike is the CEO and executive director of the St. Joseph County Airport Authority. Mike was not able to join us for this meeting, but we will have the opportunity to meet him in September.

We are pleased to welcome each of them to the Commission. With the addition of new members, I would like to draw your attention to the updated membership list and new committee assignments.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Thank you, Chairman Alley. I am pleased to share my August report, this time with a presentation deck as I have several data points to share. As you know, our key priorities and concerns remain focused on the college-going rate, the adult workforce and population and the retention of college graduates in Indiana. Indiana's college-going rate continues to decline. We reported in our College Readiness Report that Indiana's college-going rate for the class of 2020 was 53 percent. While the pandemic certainly exacerbated the decline, this trend has been occurring for many years prior. There was a 12 percentage-point decline in college-going in the past 5 years. We are also seeing major equity gaps by race and ethnicity as well as gender.

We continue to focus on promoting the value proposition, as many Hoosiers are not seeing the value of postsecondary education. We have also begun tracking economic metrics by education level. Those with a bachelor's degree have a lower unemployment rate, higher labor participation rate, as well as higher wages and wealth. We see higher levels of education impacting other social metrics including percent of Hoosier on WIC benefits, infant mortality and life expectancy.

I mentioned last meeting that we will be making key staff changes to our team. Charlee Beasor will be leading a comprehensive and robust approach to our marketing, communications and advertising, and we have been hard at work already. Here are some examples of the media attention we have been getting in recent weeks. I also mentioned our emphasis on building on our network of statewide partnerships. We will be hiring an Associate Commissioner of K-12 Strategy, who will lead our incredible K-12 outreach team as well as an Associate Commissioner for Adult Strategy, who will be working closely with employers and organizations to better serve adults.

We worked hard over the last several weeks with the Governor's office to confirm new appointments to the Commission including Mike Daigle, Nancy Jordan and Rep. Tom Saunders. We also confirmed reappointments including Anne Bowen as our student member, Al Hubbard and Chris LaMothe.

Our key priorities over the next nine months include:

- Auto-enroll all eligible students into the 21st Century Scholars program
- Return the Frank O'Bannon grant amounts to pre-Great Recession levels (an increase of 35% to the maximum base-award amounts)
- Increase the availability and strategic use of dual credit and quadruple the number of high school seniors that earn the Indiana College Core by 2028
- Require high school seniors to file the FAFSA (required to receive state financial aid)
- Provide affordable, quality and career-relevant opportunities to students
- Revising the state's education outcomes-based funding formula to build on recent successes
- Encouraging all students to participate in the Scholar Success Program, even if they are not in the 21st Century Scholars program

We will do this with an intentional focus on building good policies, programs and partnerships—really building on recommendations from the College Readiness Report and our network of partners (the Pentagon) and developing K-12 and adult-focused strategies.

II. CONSIDERATION OF THE MEETING MINUTES

R-22-4.1 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Minutes of the June 2022 regular meeting. (Motion – Fisher, second – Mulherin, unanimously approved)

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 2022 College Completion Report

Lee Rathbun and Allison Kuehr presented this item.

IV. BUDGET ITEMS

A. Outcomes-Based Funding Model

Seth Hinshaw presented this item.

R-22-4.2 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Outcomes-Based Funding Model (Motion – Peterson, second – Fisher, unanimously approved)

B. Commission for Higher Education Fiscal Year 2023 Spending Plan

Seth Hinshaw presented this item.

R-22-4.3 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Outcomes-Based Funding Model (Motion – Bland, second – Fisher, unanimously approved)

C. Capital Projects for Full Discussion

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

R-22-4.4 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 – Fisher, second – Hanna, unanimously approved)

D. Capital Projects for Expedited Action

1. Indiana University – Deferred Maintenance

R-22-4.5 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 – Saunders, unanimously approved)

V. STUDENT SUCCESS ITEMS

A. School Finder Tool and Credential Transparency

Dr. Ken Sauer and Jillian Scholten presented this item.

B. Credit for Prior Learning Clearinghouse

Dr. Ken Sauer and Dawn Clark presented this item.

C. SAT/ACT Admissions Requirements at Indiana Public Institutions

Dr. Ken Sauer and Jessica Barrett presented this item.

D. Academic Degree Programs for Expedited Action

1. Bachelor of Science in Sustainability to be offered by Purdue University Glob
2. Bachelor of Science in Aviation Management to be offered by Purdue University Global

R-22-4.6 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 – Berger, unanimously approved)

VI. STUDENT SUCCESS ITEMS

There was none.

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

VIII. 2022 OFFICER SLATE

I would like to propose this year’s officer slate. Each year in August the Commission elects a new slate of officers. This slate was created by a nominating committee consisting of one member per class. The 2022-2023 Officer Slate includes:

- Jud Fisher, Chair
- Erika Steuterman, Vice Chair
- Anne Bowen, Secretary

R-22-4.7 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the 2022-2023 Officer Slate. (Motion – Hubbard, second – Mulherin, unanimously approved)

Congratulations to our new officers. At this time, it is my honor to pass the gavel to our new Chair, Jud Fisher.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:16 P.M. ET

Mike Alley, Chair

Anne Bowen, Secretary