

**State of Indiana  
Commission for Higher Education**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Thursday, February 11, 2016**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Commission for Higher Education met in regular session starting at 1:00 p.m. at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, 420 University Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN, with Chairman Dennis Bland presiding.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**

*Members Present:* Gerald Bepko, Dennis Bland, John Conant, Sarah Correll, Jon Costas, Susana Duarte De Suarez, Jud Fisher, Lisa Hershman, Allan Hubbard, Chris LaMothe, Chris Murphy, Dan Peterson, John Popp and Caren Whitehouse.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chairman Bland began his report stating on behalf of the Commission, I would like to thank Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis for hosting our meeting today.

As you know, the Commission for Higher Education has a student commission member that serves a two-year term. Sarah Correll's term will end on June 30 of this year so the Commission staff have begun the process of designating members to the 2016 Student Nominating Committee. This Committee will select student nominees from which the Governor will make an appointment to the Commission. Applications for the student commission member position will be available for applicants in the coming weeks. Any questions about the Student Nominating Committee or its processes may be directed to Liz Walker.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Lubbers began her report stating that it seems like a long time since we've met – probably because there has been so much going on at the Commission.

While the legislative session has not seen as much legislation related to higher education as last year – which was a budget session – there have been some important areas that have been addressed – most notably clarifications in financial aid and issues related to teacher preparation and shortages as seen in specific subjects and geographical areas, as well as shortages in dual credit teacher because of the HLC actions. We're working with our legislative and K-12 partners to address these issues. A bill to address Ivy Tech's focus on the alignment between education/training and labor needs/outcomes is also working its way through the General Assembly.

The official kick-off for our *You Can. Go Back.* campaign is next Tuesday. I will be joined by the Governor, other agency heads, and representative employers for the

announcement. We remain very excited about the campaign’s potential to recruit former students back to college to attain their degrees. Our Colleges and universities are partnering with us to ensure the effort’s success.

Serving adult and returning students is critically important to meet state and employer needs, while improving personal prosperity for Hoosiers. In this regard, I am learning much as a newly selected board member of CAEL (Council on Adult and Experiential Learning). I attended my first board meeting a few weeks ago, and I believe there are multiple ways that CAEL’s initiatives align with ours.

In order to do all this work in the professional manner you would expect, we continue to refine the roles and responsibilities of CHE staff members. As you know, Matt Hawkins recently was named Chief Operating Officer – as well as continuing as Chief Financial Officer. Dominick Chase, who you know well, has been promoted to position of Associate Commissioner for Finance and Human Resources. When it is the case of an Associate Commissioner, by virtue of the language in our By-laws his position is the only one that the By-laws, it requires an approval by members of the Commission. Mr. Chairman, I now turn the process back over to you for consideration and approval.

**R-16-01.1      RESOLVED:** That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves hiring Dominick Chase as Associate Commissioner for Finance and Human Resources (Motion – Hubbard, second – Whitehouse, unanimously approved)

#### **CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER, 2015 COMMISSION MEETING**

**R-16-01.2      RESOLVED:** That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approve the Minutes of the December, 2015 regular meeting (Motion – Peterson, second – Duarte De Suarez, unanimously approved)

## **II. PUBLIC SQUARE**

### **A. *You Can. Go Back.* Employer Support**

1. Bradley Rhorer, Assistant Senior Manager of Human Resources, Subaru of Indiana Automotive, Inc.
2. Mark Hager, President, Specialized Printed Products and Prentice Products
3. Stephanie Krevdna, Deputy Director, Indiana State Personnel Department

Mr. Bland began the Public Square by stating that we learned in our working session this morning that *You Can. Go Back.* is a statewide campaign that aims to help to help the 750,000 plus Hoosier adults with some college but no degree finish what they started. We would like to continue this conversation but shift gears a bit to discuss the benefits of this campaign to employers. He introduced the three panelists that would help us with employer engagement. The panelists articulated the importance of employer partnership in increasing college completion in working adults.

Ms. Ancel moderated the discussion.

### III. BUSINESS ITEMS

#### A. Resolution Encouraging Indiana's Employers to Partner on the *You Can. Go Back.* Initiative

Ms. Duarte De Suarez recommended to include language in this resolution to encourage employers to display college *Return on Investment Reports* within digital systems and distribute in appropriate internal communications materials.

**R-16-01.3 RESOLVED:** That the Commission for Higher Education approves by consent the following resolution, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Fisher, second – Duarte De Suarez, unanimously approved)

#### B. Academic Degree Programs for Full Discussion

1. Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and Bachelor of Science in Manufacturing Engineering to be offered by the University of Southern Indiana

Dr. Zane Mitchell presented this item.

In response to Mr. Bland's question as to what are the alternative opportunities of individuals who cannot get these type of engineering programs in Evansville, Dr. Mitchell said that there are three engineering specific programs in mechanical, civil and electrical engineering but the University of Evansville is a private school and the tuition is higher and that they do not offer manufacturing engineering. In response to Mr. Bland's question as to what the differential be in the price structure and tuition, Dr. Mitchell stated that it will vary depending up on where the student comes from as a result of generous scholarships the University of Evansville offers to students of Vanderburgh County. If they accept that scholarship, the student ends up paying around \$10,000 per year. The University of Southern Indiana would be around \$6,000 per year and they draw from quite a larger range than just that county.

In response to Mr. Popp's question requesting an explanation between the difference between industrial engineering and manufacturing engineering, Dr. Mitchell stated that there would be more mechanical engineering in the manufacturing engineering degree as well as electrical and programming courses that the industrial engineers would not take. Manufacturing engineers would also take a course in robotics. Dr. Mitchell explained it as more of a harder skill set.

In response to Ms. Correll's question, recognizing Indiana's full history of public engineering programs, what is the difference if there are no new courses between getting a Bachelor of Science in engineering (BSE) that specializes in mechanical engineering and getting a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering (BSME), Dr. Mitchell stated that a student getting a BSE could take all the same courses and have a degree identical to what we want to call the BSME. The difference is what it's going to say on that diploma. To some employers, it is very important to them that it have that discipline specific designation.

Dr. Sauer provided the staff recommendation.

**R-16-01.4**      **RESOLVED:** That the Commission for Higher Education approves by consent the following recommendations, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – LaMothe, second – Conant, unanimously approved)

**C. Academic Degree Programs for Expedited Action**

1. Master of Science in Nursing to be offered by Indiana University Southeast
2. Bachelor of Arts in Spanish to be offered by Indiana University East
3. Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in Physics to be offered by the University of Southern Indiana

**R-16-01.5**      **RESOLVED:** That the Commission for Higher Education approves by consent the following degree programs, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Bepko, second – Murphy, unanimously approved)

**D. Capital Project for Full Discussion**

1. College of Health and Human Services Renovation and Expansion – Indiana State University

Diann McKee presented this item. Mr. Hawkins presented the staff recommendation.

**R-16-01.6**      **RESOLVED:** That the Commission for Higher Education approves by consent the following capital project, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Peterson, second – Murphy, unanimously approved)

**E. Capital Projects for Expedited Discussion**

1. Ball State University – Emens Auditorium Lobby Renovation and Expansion
2. Indiana University Bloomington – Marching Hundred Hall
3. Purdue University West Lafayette – Ross Ade Lease

**R-16-01.7**      **RESOLVED:** That the Commission for Higher Education approves by consent the following capital projects, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Murphy, second – Whitehouse, unanimously approved)

**F. Return on Investment Report**

Mr. Bland stated that the Commission has received a lot of positive attention for our Return on Investment Reports. The first, published in early 2013, provided a state-level view of the value of college measured against the cost. The second, published later the same year, provided campus- and program-specific return figures: industries of employment and salaries over a 10-year time horizon. Dr. Townsley previewed the data during our working session last month and now she will present the final report.

Dr. Townsley stated that this was our first pilot effort to use the free public version of Tableau software and this site is posted on our LearnMoreIndiana.org website where it is

much more accessible to students and parents and anticipate using similar dashboards for future reports, such as the College Readiness Report.

In response to Ms. Correll's question whether the dataset on the page displayed, Employment by Program, was just showing one year's graduates or total number that we've tracked in the state, Dr. Townsley stated that this particular dataset for this page is a composite of multiple years' worth of graduates, 2009-2013.

Mr. Hubbard commented that there is self-selection, those who choose not to go to college are generally less motivated, less hardworking, less organized and don't have the same soft skills as someone who goes to college, so it is not exactly a fair comparison to compare earnings of a high school graduate to the earnings of a college graduate.

Dr. Townsley stated that one of the things we could possibly do under the Indiana Network of Knowledge (INK) umbrella and expanding the type of data that we are looking at, is to be able to follow those who do graduate high school as well as those who graduate college and really look at this weighted outcome in that manner.

Ms. Lubbers said one of our challenges with this is how we can make this so that people will actually use it and make it easy for them to use is important. This is the first time we've had this interactive tool and we need to think about how it is actually going to be used by the people who want to use it and make it as easy for them to do that as possible. Maybe beginning with simple questions to guide people where they need to be. Such as, "what are you trying to figure out with this website" and if you are someone who is trying to write a paper you go to one place and if you're trying to find out and compare costs because you're a student going to college next year, you're guided somewhere else. We need to take this great information and figure out how to make it more user-friendly.

#### **G. 2016-2017 Frank O'Bannon Award**

**R-16-01.8**      **RESOLVED:** That the Commission for Higher Education approves by consent the following item, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Hubbard, second – Bepko, 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.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

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Dennis Bland, Chair

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Susana Duarte De Suarez, Secretary