

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
Higher Education Coordinating Commission
Thursday, June 9, 2022
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

HECC Building
3225 25th Street SE, Salem, Oregon
Commission Board Room /Microsoft Teams

TERRY CROSS
Chair

SANDY ROWE
Vice-Chair

RUKAIYAH ADAMS

VANESSA BECKER

RICHARD DEVLIN

HELEN EDWARDS

ARNEL FAJARDO

GREG HAMANN

RICARDO LUJAN-
VALERIO

AISLYN MATIAS

MOTUTAMA SIPELII

Non-voting members

LEE AYERS-PREBOSKI

FRANK GOULARD

ROSSY VALDOVINOS
TORRES

Executive Director
BEN CANNON

Present: Chair Terry Cross; Commissioners Rukaiyah Adams, Lee Ayers-Preboski, Vanessa Becker, Richard Devlin, Helen Edwards, Arnel Fajardo, Frank Goulard, Ricardo Lujan-Valerio, Aislyn Matias, Motutama Sipelii

Excused: Commissioners Greg Hamann, Sandy Rowe, Rossy Valdovinos Torres

HECC Staff: Ben Cannon, Executive Director; Ramona Rodamaker, Deputy Executive Director; Lisa Grisham, Interim Commission Administrator; Veronica Dujon, Academic Policy and Authorization Director; Donna Lewelling, Community Colleges and Workforce Development Director; Kyle Thomas, Legislative Affairs Director

Guests: Lindsey Capps, Governor's Office; Efren Zamudio, Governor's Office; Jasi Swick, Southern Oregon University; Mark Mulvihill, Intermountain Education Service District; Louise Seamster, University of Iowa; Nagi Naganathan, Oregon Institute of Technology; Lisa Skari, Mt. Hood Community College; Kimberly Matier, Educator Advancement Council; Rae Ette Newman, Eastern Oregon University; Susan Gardner, Oregon State University; Jose Coll, Portland State University; Laura Lee McIntyre, University of Oregon

Standing Business

1.0 Preliminary and Organizational Business

1.1 Chair Cross called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and reviewed the agenda. The interim Commission Administrator called roll.

1.2 Commissioner acknowledgements
Chair Cross acknowledged those who have passed during the COVID-19 pandemic. He also thanked HECC staff who worked hard to make Commission meetings occur during the pandemic. Cross stated this is the last meeting for Commissioners Ayers-Preboski and Goulard. He thanked them for their dedication to higher education and given certificates in recognition of their service on the Commission.

2.0 Executive Director Report

Director Cannon provided his report. We are in process of our FY23-25 budget development. The office building has officially reopened following the pandemic. There are many staff changes occurring in the next few weeks: Karen Lynn Howard has left, and Guthrie Stafford has been named as her replacement. Erin Rau is the new Deputy Director for the Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC), and an Office of Workforce Investments (OWI) Director permanent hire is coming soon. We will be welcoming three new commissioners at our August meeting: Emily Simnitt, Natalie Arnot and Fernando Rojas-Galván. Their terms start July 1, 2022. Cannon thanked Commissioners Ayers-Preboski and Goulard for their time on the commission. Chair Cross is giving the commencement speech at the Oregon Institute of Technology.

2.1 HECC 2021-23 Budget Update was included in materials.

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3.0

Governor's Office Report

Lindsey Capps introduced Efren Zamudio. He is the Deputy Director education policy advisor for the Governor's office. He spoke to the college access and work the board is engaged in. Capps extended the governor's gratitude to outgoing Commissioners Ayers-Preboski and Goulard. Thank you for your continued leadership.

***Strategic Implementation**

**This item is being taken out of order to accommodate an invited presenter.*

4.0

Strategic Activity Three: Pathways

4.1

Transfer Council Update

Donna Lewelling and Veronica Dujon said in the 2021 legislative session, the Legislative Assembly adopted Senate Bill 233 establishing a Transfer Council charged with advising the Commission on the adoption of rules implementing a common course numbering system and advisory responsibility for Major Transfer Map (MTM) Pathways, amongst other credit transfer-related responsibilities. They anticipate recommendations coming to the Commission in the fall of 2022. The Transfer Council will consist of 15 voting members; the chairperson shall serve as a nonvoting member. They are responsible for the development and implementation of a Common Course Numbering System (CCNS). The framework for CCNS shall include common statewide conventions for - course numbers, titles, prefixes, and accommodate descriptions and core common outcomes as identified for the course by the Faculty Subcommittee. Commissioner Ayers-Preboski questioned how we will know this happening across the state. Dujon replied, the groups will continue to meet. Faculty are aware of maintaining core alignment. Lewelling stated it is part of the core outcomes. Commissioner Devlin asked about other courses such as biology. Lewelling said four core areas were identified as the highest transferring courses – writing, math, communication/public speaking and statics. The courses he mentioned will be included in the upcoming work.

4.2

K-12 Perspective on Transfer Issues

Dr. Mark Mulvihill, Superintendent of Intermountain Education Service District (ESD), spoke. He stated if a student goes into college with nine or more credits their chance of succeeding is increased tremendously. We understand this is extremely difficult and complex. However, we need to err on the side of assisting a child. We support this work and are glad to be included in the Transfer Council. We have only two asks: please continue to include us; and stay within the timeline. We understand the roadblocks; however, meeting the timelines the bill states are critical.

Standing Business (cont.)

5.0

Invited Testimony and Discussion

Jasi Swick, Southern Oregon University
She shared her experiences as a Native American student in Higher Education.

6.0

Public Testimony

President Rick Bailey, Southern Oregon University (SOU)
Dr. Belinda Batten
Quentin Comus, student employee, Oregon State University's Cascades Campus

Recess 10:39 a.m.

Reconvene 10:49 a.m.

7.0

Community College Program Approvals

7.1

CONSENT ITEM: Chemeketa Community College: Phase Three: Applied Leadership and Management BAS

7.2

CONSENT ITEM: Mt. Hood Community College: Phase Three: Cybersecurity BAS

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7.3 CONSENT ITEM: Lane Community College: Phase One: Business BAS

MOTION: Commissioner Lujan-Valerio moved to approve the Bachelors of Applied Science in Applied Leadership and Management degree. Matias seconded the motion, which carried unanimously

8.0 Public University Program Approvals

8.1 CONSENT ITEM: Southern Oregon University, B.A./B.S. in Music Industry & Production Studies

8.2 CONSENT ITEM: Portland State University, P.M.S. in Applied Geoscience

MOTION: Commissioner Becker moved to approve the Consent Calendar of June 9, 2022. Lujan-Valerio seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

9.0 Legislative Report

Kyle Thomas presented his report. Commissioner Goulard questioned Thomas about how much will be in the Oregon Opportunity Grant (OOG) and Oregon Promise. Thomas deferred to staff presenting this afternoon. Commissioner Lujan-Valerio inquired about the tuition equity criteria for these scholarships and, asked if they will remove the resident requirement. Thomas replied he does not believe so.

Special Business

**10.0 Presentation and Discussion:
“Wealth Disparities and Student Debt”**

Louise Seamster is an Assistant Professor in Sociology and Criminology and African American Studies at the University of Iowa (with a courtesy appointment in the College of Law), and a Nonresident Fellow in Governance Studies at the Brookings Institution. At the invitation of HECC, on May 19th Dr. Seamster presented to the Legislative Task Force on Underrepresented Students in Higher Education (HB 2590) on the relationship between postsecondary unaffordability, student debt, and intergenerational wealth disparities. Her research particularly highlights the contribution that student debt makes to exacerbating racial wealth inequality in the US. Commissioners viewed Dr. Seamster’s presentation to the HB 2590 Task Force. Discussion followed.

Recess 12:22 p.m.

Reconvene 1:02 p.m.

11.0 Interim update on NCHEMS study of Oregon’s higher education landscape

Nagi Naganathan and Lisa Skari presented a briefing to the Commission on the study from Oregon Institute of Technology.

Strategic Implementation

12.0 Strategic Activity Two: Funding

12.1 HECC Agency Request Budget Development Update (*Report from F&A Subcommittee*)

Ramona Rodamaker provided an update on current development of policy option packages and asked for input on any suggested policy guidance or other modifications to Financial Aid and, Support Fund packages. They are due to DAS by September 1, 2022. Staff will return to the August commission meeting for approval. Edwards asked if we have the causality factors that give the results for \$1,000/student. Pinkard replied there is a link between financial responsibility and the long-term effect of healthier financial outcome. The more the state contributes, the more successful the student (*Exhibit #1*). Cannon remarked that in his experience an increased state investment in colleges has never resulted in a decrease for students.

13.0 Strategic Activity Three (cont.): Pathways

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3225 25th Street SE, Salem, OR 97302 13.1

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ACTION ITEM: Educator Equity Plans: EOU, OSU, PSU, UO (ORS 342.447)
Dujon explained how public university educator preparation programs are required by state law to develop two-year plans with specific goals, strategies, and timelines for the recruitment, admission, retention, and graduation of diverse educators. Since 2016, each university has submitted a unique plan for approval that describes the goals and implementation strategies they will undertake. She introduced Kimberly Matier, who thanked the Commission for their time; Rae Ette Newman, (*Exhibit #3*); Susan Gardner, (*Exhibit #4*); Tina Anctil Peterman, presenting for Jose Coll (*Exhibit #5*); Laura Lee McIntyre, and Dianna Carrizales-Engelmann (*Exhibit #6*). The Commission thanked everyone for their presentations.

MOTION: Commissioner Sipelli motioned to approve the 2022-2024 Educator Equity Plans for EOU, OSU, PSU and UO. Commissioner Devlin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Cannon departed at 3:17 p.m.

Other Business

14.0 Oregon Administrative Rules

14.1 **ACTION ITEM:** Temporary rule amendment Chapter 715: Adjusted weights within the Student Success and Completion Model (SSCM).

Jim Pinkard detailed how during the 2019-20 SSCM review workgroup process, changes were made to a number of elements within the rules governing the model. Among these were changes to certain cost weights, and modifications to the list of fields eligible for the area of study bonus. Specifically, the cost weights for degrees and student credit hours in catalog of instructional programs (CIP) area 51, which comprises health studies fields, was among those updated. However, following implementation of the updated rule, it was discovered that at some institutions degrees and student credit hours earned in these fields were not included in the updated cost weights or area of study bonus list. This temporary rule, and the identical permanent rule to be considered in August, corrects this oversight. Its adoption is necessary to ensure the changes to the SSCM are reflected in distributions for the upcoming fiscal year.

MOTION: Commissioner Becker moved to approve the temporary rule update to OAR 715-013-0040. Commissioner Cross seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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ACTION ITEM: Permanent rule amendments and adoption Chapter 583: Revisions to school authorization and exemption procedures, and establishment of rule to address the permanent closure of an authorized school.

Kia Sorensen presented. These changes go into effect on adoption.

583-030-0020: This amendment establishes standards and application procedures for schools to seek authorization or exemption from the Commission to operate as a degree granting institution in Oregon. Establishes conditions for provisional authorization of non-exempt schools. The amendment further clarifies that schools are required to be accredited or seeking accreditation, and that provisional authorization can be granted if a school demonstrates that it is making progress in obtaining accreditation. The amendment also notes that there are other conditions that must be met to obtain provisional authorization. Other amendments include updating the length of time authorization is granted for, to allow authorization time to be extended beyond two years, for up to two more years, in extenuating or emergency situations. This update adds clarity to the authorization process.

583-030-0030: This amendment establishes the standards and procedures required for institutions to obtain authorization to offer academic degrees in Oregon. The amendments clarify that authorized institutions must notify the Commission of institution or program changes and the details of the change so the Commission may make a determination of whether the changes are substantive and may warrant further fees, or non-substantive changes, both requiring approval. The amendment further clarifies and provides examples of substantive changes and documentation required.

583-030-0042: This amendment updates reporting requirements of authorized degree granting schools in Oregon. The amendments to this rule clarify the delivery method for submitting institutional data; requires immediate notification of changes of faculty and administrators, academic and administrative policies affecting the control of the school or impacting the students, and any notifications from accrediting agencies and the U.S. Department of Education.

583-030-0044: This amendment establishes the state and degree granting schools' responsibility for student records, including specific requirements upon school closure. The amendments establish that transcripts held by the Commission or other authorized party should be held permanently. It also updates transcript transfer to the Commission to be electronic and in PDF format rather than hard copy.

583-030-0061: This new rule establishes that schools seeking initial authorization or authorization renewal from the Commission must submit a school closure plan, including a communication plan, teach out procedures or credit transfer options, and identification of custodian of records. This rule protects students through ensuring that in the event of a school closure, there is a clear process for them to obtain student records and issue a refund if warranted.

MOTION: Commissioner Devlin motioned to approve the permanent rules as drafted. Commissioner Becker seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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14.3

ACTION ITEM: Permanent rule adoption Chapter 715: Requiring menstrual products be available free of charge at public institutions.

Thomas presented House Bill 3294 (2021), as amended by HB 1522 (2022). It requires institutions of higher education to offer menstrual products free of charge to students. The products are required to be available in bathrooms located in public school buildings where educational services are provided to students. The bill requires HECC to adopt rules implementing the requirement. The proposed rule contains some key provisions worth noting. First, it defines educational services broadly, not only as the service of teaching, but as services that are primarily available to students. This definition requires products be available in student unions, dining halls, and residence halls in commonly accessible areas. Second, the rule requires institutions to consider the quality of products offered, and mandates that institutions purchase and make available only products of sufficient quality to meet the needs of menstruating students. It also requires products to be free of unnecessary scents, and for institutions to offer different sizes of product (though not all sizes are required in all bathrooms). These clarifications are meant to ensure some type of product will be available to the largest possible population. Finally, the rule requires institutions to notify new students of product availability, so students have the opportunity to avail themselves of the products.

MOTION: Ayers-Preboski motioned to approve the permanent rules as drafted. Goulard seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

15.0 Cross adjourned the meeting at 3:32 p.m.

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