

Higher Education Coordinating Commission FUNDING AND ACHIEVEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

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Vice-Chair

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GREG HAMANN

AISLYN MATIAS

FERNANDO
ROJAS-GALVÁN

EMILY SIMNITT

MOTUTAMA
SIPELII

Executive Director
BEN CANNON

Wednesday, May 10, 2023
1:00 pm – 2:27 pm

FULLY REMOTE MEETING

MEETING MINUTES:

Subcommittee Members Present: Sandy Rowe, F&A Subcommittee Chair; Terry Cross, Commissioner; Greg Hamann, Commissioner; Richard Devlin, Commissioner; Emily Simnitt, Commissioner; Rukaiyah Adams, Commissioner

Excused Subcommittee Members: Vanessa Becker, Commissioner; Arnel Fajardo, Commissioner

Staff: Ben Cannon, Executive Director; Ramona Rodamaker, Deputy Executive Director; Jim Pinkard, Postsecondary Finance and Capitol Director; Rudyane Rivera-Lindstrom, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Guthrie Stafford, Commission Administrator

Guests: None

1.0 Preliminary and Organizational Business

1.1 Chair Rowe called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm, shared opening remarks, and reviewed the agenda.

Commission Administrator Guthrie Stafford called roll.

2.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3.0 Public University Tuition Setting – Summary and Calculations

Jim Pinkard presented the informational item to the subcommittee.

Commissioner Devlin requested that future reports include an estimate of the increase over all for incoming freshman that aggregates all Oregon public institution data. Commissioner Devlin asked about the data used to calculate expected state funding and subsequent tuition setting. Jim Pinkard responded that there are many factors that are incorporated into a variety of models based on different levels of state funding.

Commissioner Devlin asked Ben Cannon about the interplay between Oregon Opportunity Grant funding increases and tuition increases. Ben Cannon responded that the Opportunity Grant awarding methodology has not been locked in fully for fall of 2023 because HECC is still awaiting the final OOG budget. The goal is for the award size to keep pace with tuition increases. Ben Cannon said he would follow up on the question, and discussed how

Link to materials archive: <https://www.oregon.gov/highered/about/Pages/past-materials.aspx>

Link to meeting recordings: <https://www.youtube.com/@oregonhighereducationcoord1460>

For questions, contact Guthrie Stafford at Guthrie.stafford@hecc.oregon.gov or 971-273-9222

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institutions use aim to use institutional aid and remissions to insulate their lowest income students from the worst effects of tuition increases. Ben Cannon discussed the need for an evaluation of a typical high need student's net cost increases.

Commissioner Devlin commented on the restrictions to student affordability implied by cumulative tuition increases. Chair Rowe responded and addressed the need for a larger reckoning with the sustainability of higher education base tuition increases.

Chair Rowe commented on the additional fees applied to specific programs and the need for data to track these impacts on higher education affordability. Chair Rowe asked Jim Pinkard for a response to this issue.

Chair Rowe asked about the expense of healthcare for universities, and requested a presentation from universities about what they are providing and what they anticipate as sustainable levels of service.

Chair Rowe thanked Jim Pinkard for his presentation and the universities for their transparency and data sharing work.

4.0 Community College Distribution Model – Rule Amendment Process

Ramona Rodamaker presented an overview of the Community College Distribution Model rule amendment process and proposed changes to the rule text. Ramona Rodamaker continued to discuss the proposed rollout of the model's implementation, as well as the next step for the rule's adoption. Ramona Rodamaker discussed some of the disagreements and proposed compromises that arose during the Rules Advisory Committee process and the opportunities for continued public comment.

Chair Rowe commented on the inclusiveness of the process despite the differing opinions involved in the development of the proposed revisions.

Commissioner Adams asked for more details on the disagreements that arose during the rules advisory process. Ramona Rodamaker responded that the weighting of implementation between support and success funds caused some concerns, as well as concerns about the timeline of the rollout. Ramona Rodamaker responded further that the current proposed model incorporates the agency's response to raised concerns and noted that the Rules Advisory Committee was mostly comprised of CC funding professionals whose primary interest was in how the rules would be implemented.

Commissioner Cross thanked Ramona Rodamaker for her work during the process, and Chair Rowe thanked HECC staff for their clear presentation of the information in the docket material.

Ben Cannon commented on how the latest collaborative work has been primarily technical, but that there remain longstanding differences in philosophy about whether and how state funding formulas should support institutional activity. Ben Cannon continued to stress the importance of continual monitoring for unintended consequences of the proposed revisions.

5.0 Community College Distribution Model – Equity Analysis

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Rudyane Rivera-Lindstrom presented on the equity analysis of the proposed community college distribution model weighting, and how it fits in with the HECC adopted equity lens.

Commissioner Cross commented on his appreciation for the structure of the presentation and its demonstration of the operationalization of equity focused policy decisions.

Jim Pinkard presented the overarching policy objectives of the distribution model revisions in reference to docket item 5.ob. Jim Pinkard addressed the proposed rule language definitions that highlight the policy goals and discussed the financial details of the proposed distribution changes. Jim Pinkard continued to breakdown the details of student success and student support weighted funding. Jim Pinkard discussed how stakeholders were involved in the planning of these proposed changes and how HECC will continue to engage with them during subsequent policy review cycles.

Commissioner Terry Cross commented on the importance of this type of analysis for the furtherance of the HECC's equity agenda. Jim Pinkard acknowledged HECC staff who contributed to the analysis.

6.0 Chair Rowe adjourned the meeting at 2:27pm.

Sandy Rowe, Chair

Guthrie Stafford, Commission Administrator