

# Higher Education Coordinating Commission Private Career Schools Advisory Committee

## Minutes

Friday, December 16th, 2022  
10:03 AM – 11:35 PM

### VIDEOCONFERENCE

**Members Present via teleconference:** Chair Melissa Mason, Vice-Chair Martin Nelson, Kristin Klementowski, Mary Nelsen, RonHECC Staff: Interim Deputy Director Kia Sorensen, Debora van Eckhardt, Erin Berkshire, Karyn Chambers, Liz Rogers, Matthew Altman, Peter Gertenrich, David Graf, Carrie Fisher, Ben Tateald Sutphin, Sharon Blair  
**Members Excused:** Siri Dixon, Chris Rohaley  
**HECC Staff:** Interim Deputy Director Kia Sorensen, Debora van Eckhardt, Erin Berkshire, Karyn Chambers, Liz Rogers, Matthew Altman, Peter Gertenrich, David Graf, Carrie Fisher, Ben Tate

### MEETING MINUTES:

BOARD MEMBERS

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INTEIM DEPUTY  
DIRECTOR

DAVID GRAF

DEBORA VANECKHARDT

DONALD WILDFANG

ERIN BERKSHIRE

KARYN CHAMBERS

LIZ ROGERS

MATTHEW ALTMAN

MANDY

HAVERCROFT

PETER GERTENRICH

#### 1.0 Preliminary and Organizational Business

1.1 Chair Mason Opening Remarks welcomed everyone with introductions of new members: Kristen Klementowski, Sharon Blair, and Siri Dixon. Agenda review and Approve September 29, 2022,

#### 1.2 ACTION ITEM

Motion: Chair Mason called for a motion to approve September 29, 2022; meeting minutes as presented in agenda item 1.3. Mary Nielsen moved adoption, and Vice-Chair Martin Nelson seconded. Finally, chair Mason called for a vote. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### 2.0 Director's Report & New PCS Member

Interim Deputy Director Sorensen introduced Erin Berkshire and Liz Rogers, HECC's new staff, with short introductions. Deputy Director Sorensen also reviewed the following meeting dates, March 16, 2023, and June 23, 2023. In addition, Interim Deputy Director Sorenson shared updates on current enrollment numbers and school data.

#### 3.0 PCS Fiscal Update

HECC David Graf reported on the fiscal update from the last meeting on September 29, 2022, the closeout and final of October through November 2022, and projected information for this year. David Graf reported on revenues, expenditures, cash balance, and Tuition Protection Fund. Questions/Answers

Question: May we see a report on the cash balance pattern of projects and actuals?

Answer: HECC David Graf replied yes, I will pull that information for you for the next meeting.

#### **4.0 Modernization Update**

HECC Director of Research and Data Ben Tate updated the committee on the agency's process of demos, selected vendors, onboarding, systems, research and data process, and a possible estimation. HECC Director of Research and Data Ben Tate also gave scenarios for this new year's process on research, data, and systems issues. HECC Ben Tate also gave data on the mandating reporting was 65%, and the committee felt the institutions may not realize, even with the difficulty of the work to make ready that it's still mandatory and essential. That is in the new year. The committee will consider educating and advising the institutions of the importance of mandating; otherwise, it's only a part of the story.

Question/Answers

**Question:** Will PCS be asked for feedback?

Answer: Karyn Chambers, this system is planned to be an active participation system adding and getting information. Interactive for all of us.

**Answer:** Interim Deputy Sorensen Asking for feedback is far out right now. We are behind the timeline.

Question: I hope there will be training in webinar format to help with different schedules.

**Answer:** Interim Deputy Sorensen A great idea. We will keep that in mind.

#### **5.0 Update: Psilocybin Facilitator Training Schools**

**HECC Peter Gertenrich**, presented a PowerPoint with a review for new members and current updates on the high volume of applications/new applications and new growth data. HECC Peter Gertenrich also explained how they handle the growth and processes with existing staff. HECC Peter Gertenrich gave his option on the breakdown of market changes and the possible increase on why the approvals have plateaued or have grown. Question / Answers Question:

#### **6.0 Update: New Schools**

**HECC Perter Gertenrich**

**Presentation reported an update on**

#### **7.0 Update: Student Complaints**

**HECC Matthew Altman** Informed, reviewed, and updated: Student complaints presentation: Matthew Altman reviewed the new members. Student complaints are being consolidated and handled within HECC, and each department has completed its student complaints. Now we have one person, Matthew Altman takes all the student complaints from PCS, community colleges, private colleges, public universities, universities, and online degree programs. This quarter the number of complaints has gone up. Matthew Altman provided a common reason that this can happen when students realize and are aware that there is a system in place

and the outcomes on their behalf or not can increase. Matthew Altman summarized the number of complaint forms: 115, 60 resolved, 58 contacts. Informational: Fostering a good grievance process at the school makes it unnecessary to even come to the HECC. Matthew Altman provided what a good grievance process can accomplish.

#### **Question/Answer**

**Question:** Is there a pattern for complaints new school complaints or old school complaint context?

**Answer:** At this point I haven't noticed anything, but we haven't done a formal look for new schools versus old schools.

#### **9.0 Public Testimony**

*Each individual/group will have a time limit of three minutes, or as determined by the Chair*

**Noah Heller** Expressed concern about the Psilocybin Community. Specifically, there's a gold rush developing with training centers for the program, and the amount of intake of students or interested individuals 1000 that will not be able to gain employment due to the limited 400 licensed psychiatrists in the state of Oregon. Noah Heller is concerned about the financial strain of the growing cost of centers and the added insurance costs, employment possibilities, and risk. And felt it's morally wrong to create a program when there's no evidence that there will be jobs for these graduates/facilitators and cited "The Earth Medicine Center" and "Forum Psychedelic of Portland." Noah Heller advises that we could be repeating itself similarly to the private culinary schools and asks the committee to investigate over the coming months and to find a way to protect students.

**Chair Mason** thanked Noah Heller and asked if he was speaking on behalf of an organization or solid public comment.

**Noah Heller** replied I'm part of an organization.

#### **10.0 Chair Mason Adjourn the meeting at 11:35**