

COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Friday, August 13, 2010

INFORMATION ITEM D: Minutes of the June 2010 Commission Working Session

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION WORKING SESSIONS

Friday, June 11, 2010

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Commission for Higher Education met in working session starting at 7:45 a.m. (ET) at Indiana State University, Tirey Memorial Union, State Room, in Terre Haute, Indiana. Commission members in attendance were Cynthia Baker, Jerry Bepko, Dennis Bland, Jon Costas, Carol D'Amico, Jud Fisher, Marilyn Moran-Townsend, Chris Murphy, Eileen Odum, George Rehnquist, Ken Sendelweck, Clay Slaughter and Michael Smith.

Also present was Tim Sanders. Staff present was Jason Bearce, Haley Glover, Bernie Hannon, Teresa Lubbers, Ken Sauer and Jennifer Seabaugh.

II. DISCUSSION

- A. Chair Michael Smith called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.
- B. Carol D'Amico told the Commission about a recent meeting between her and representatives from Indiana's Secondary Market (ISM) and officials from Iowa. She indicated that ISM will be undertaking work to develop a model to help students pay for college, and to help them make appropriate decisions based on their college/program plans and ability to pay.
 - a. Bernie Hannon, Senior Associate Commissioner for Facilities and Financial Affairs and CFO, indicated that Commission staff has been working closely with ISM, and that ISM was using Commission Student Information System (SIS) data.
- C. Mr. Hannon discussed the ongoing Financial Aid Study, which was mandated through legislation. Mr. Hannon indicated that he would not be proposing hard recommendations at the full Commission meeting, but that he would be seeking approval of policy directions. Commission members indicated that they would need to formally adopt this study, which will be done via a teleconference prior to the June 30 study deadline.
 - a. Chair Smith indicated that he believes a strong contextual background will be important for this study. Mr. Hannon responded that the study will include both the historical background of SSACI and its programs, as well as a national perspective.

- D. Haley Glover, Associate Commissioner for Policy and Planning Studies, provided an overview of the 2010-11 Indiana/Ohio Reciprocity Agreement. This agreement adds three Indiana counties and, for the purposes of enrollment growth funding, caps reciprocity enrollment at the participating Indiana institutions.
- E. Ms. Glover also briefed the Commission on amendments to the recently adopted Policy on Regional Campus Roles and Missions. Feedback received from college leadership and faculty made it clear that the Commission should refine its language around commuter students and the research focus of Regional Campuses.
- F. Jason Bearce, Associate Commissioner for Strategic Communications and Initiatives, updated the Commission on contract negotiations with the National Center for College Cost to develop the Indiana College Cost Estimator (ICCE). Commission staff requested the authority to finalize and enter into this agreement. Commission members voiced concern that the ICCE contract would take ongoing licensing and support costs into account, that confidentiality of students and institutions would be written into the contract, and that the end product would enable students and advisors to make more educated college decisions. Staff indicated that this contract has not, at this point, been reviewed by counsel, but that they would approach the Attorney General's office for review if it became necessary.
- G. Teresa Lubbers, Commissioner, notified the Commission that the Governor would be announcing the establishment of Western Governors University Indiana. The Commission will be asked during the business meeting to adopt a resolution in support of this initiative. Ms. Lubbers reminded the Commission that the group had, in 1998, supported this initiative in its beginning stages.
- H. Mr. Hannon briefed Commission members on a proposal to reduce the retirement contribution for new employees of the Commission from 15 percent to 10 percent, bringing the contribution more in line with what colleges provide to their employees. The proposal includes a grandfather clause for existing employees, but Commission members, while supporting the initiative, indicated that the Commission should not close the door to further reductions in this contribution.
- I. Ken Sendelweck, Commission Vice Chair, notified members that the Officer Nominating Committee had met and discussed the strengths of the current slate of officers, and therefore support keeping the current officers in place through the 2010-11 year. Current officers are Mike Smith, Chair, Ken Sendelweck, Vice Chair, Jud Fisher, Secretary, Marilyn Moran-Townsend, Chair of the Strategic Directions Committee, and Gary Lehman, Chair of the Human Resources Committee.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:52 a.m. (ET).