

**State of Indiana
Commission for Higher Education**

Minutes of Meeting

Thursday, February 14, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Commission for Higher Education met in regular session starting at 1:00 p.m. at the Vincennes Aviation and Technology Center, 2175 South Hoffman Road, Indianapolis, IN 46241 with Chairman Chris LaMothe presiding.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Members Present: Mike Alley, Dennis Bland, Jud Fisher, Coleen Gabhart, Al Hubbard, Chris LaMothe, Kathy Parkison, Dan Peterson, Beverley Pitts, John Popp and Alfonso Vidal

On the Phone: Jon Costas

Members Absent: Lisa Hershman and Chris Murphy

CHAIR'S REPORT

On behalf of the Commission, I would like to thank Vincennes University for your hospitality and for hosting our meeting today.

As Kathy mentioned this morning, the Commission will host the Faculty Leadership Conference tomorrow at the Ivy Tech campus downtown. This conference will focus on community engagement and is sure to lead to informative discussions. At the conference the winner of the inaugural Gerald Bepko Faculty Community Engagement Award will also be announced. We will be announcing that publically and will be sure that you all receive a copy of that announcement.

Be sure to mark your calendars if you have not done so already for the Commission's two annual policy events, the State of Higher Education Address and the Kent Weldon Conference for Higher Education, which will be held on April 8 and 9 this year. The events will focus on the transition from high school to college and careers; and we are honored to have Matt Gandall with Education Strategy Group and Governor Eric Holcomb serving as our keynotes for the conference. We can expect to hear more about these events in the coming months.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Lubbers began her report stating with the legislative session underway, we're obviously focused on what's happening at the General Assembly. Josh reminded me the other day that there are 36 bills that have called out the Commission in some way, many which will require us to spend time in developing and implementing new ideas. This

compares to about 15 last year. The good news is we have an opportunity to frame more policies and ensure that the higher education perspective is understood and included.

On the national front, U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander who chairs the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, has indicated that reauthorization of the federal Higher Education Act is well overdue and should be tackled – it's been a decade. It appears there are some bipartisan areas of agreement. Three key areas he cited that need to be addressed are: Simplification of the FAFSA form that all students receiving aid must complete. He says he would like to condense the form from more than 100 questions to between 15 and 25. Alexander also recommended "taking a scalpel" to the federal system of loan repayment. The details are still being worked out. A more controversial element of his proposal would implement a new accountability system for schools based on things such as the loan repayment rates of their students and what students learn rather than length of study. It also embraces reinstating Pell eligibility for those who are incarcerated – a proposal that is supported by Governor Holcomb and our Department of Corrections. While Sen. Alexander's bill shows progress, it's a long way to the finish line – if we get there.

Speaking of Washington, I want to take this opportunity to call out the work that is being shepherded by our own Commission member, Lisa Hershman. Serving as the Department of Defense's Acting Chief Management officer and its third ranking civilian official, Lisa is overseeing efforts to cut costs and increase efficiency. Bottom line: it's resulted in \$4.7 billion saved over the last two years. Her office is focused on creating efficiencies in areas such as IT, health care, and contract management and acquisitions. In Lisa's words: "We want to create a culture of thinking in terms of improvement in modernization and creating value." Goes to show – when you need a job done right – send in a Hoosier – even better a Hoosier woman!

Recently I attended the kick-off for the 50th anniversary celebration for IUPUI. Mayor Hogsett and all living Indianapolis mayors joined Chancellor Nasser Paydar in talking about the history and ongoing value of the school to central Indiana.

As a part of IU's Bicentennial which is officially marked on January 20, 2020, "voices from the bicentennial" are being captured by historians and researchers. Last week, someone shared with me the story of Esther Bray and since she was a member of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education under three governors and is grandmother to current Sen. Pro Tempore Rodric Bray, I wanted to share a couple insights about her role in Indiana's history. Named Woman of the Century in 1999 by the Herald Times, she was certainly a legend in Martinsville and beyond. Most of you know her husband was Congressman Bill Bray, her son was State Senator Richard Bray, and, as I said her grandson currently serves in the State Senate. He contends that the political legacy of his family would not have existed without the persistence of his grandmother. Esther was committed to helping young women; she was an associate professor, a grandmother, a political strategist and a trailblazer. "She broke the mold for what it meant to be a female who was both interested in politics and involved in academia." We don't often cite the contributions of past Commission members but at this moment in time I thought it was worth remembering Esther Bray who was named to the Commission in 1971 as a founding member and continued to serve until 1992.

This story reminds me of the gratitude we should express for those who have and are serving and guiding the work of the Commission.

Finally, we learned on Tuesday that ScholarTrack, the Commission’s one stop shop for guiding students and families through the process of planning for, applying and maintaining their financial aid, has been named a Mira Award nominee in the Innovation of the Year category by TechPoint – another significant validation of the value of the platform and acknowledgement of the great work by our IT and financial aid teams.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER, 2018 COMMISSION MEETING

R-19-02.1 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the Minutes of the October, 2018 regular meeting. (Motion – Peterson, second – Alley, unanimously approved)

II. PUBLIC SQUARE

A. Identifying and Supporting At-Risk Students

1. Ball State University – Ro-Anne Royer Engle, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs
2. Indiana State University – Dr. Mike Licari, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
3. Indiana University – Rebecca Torstrick Senior Assistant VP, University Academic Affairs Director, Completion & Student Success Office
4. Ivy Tech Community College – Dr. Cory Claseman-Ryan, Assistant VP for Student Success
5. Purdue University – Frank Dooley, Ph.D., Senior Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning
6. University of Southern Indiana – Shelly Blunt, Ph.D., Associate Provost for Academic Affairs
7. Vincennes University – John Livers, Student Success Center Coordinator

As the Commission continues to monitor progress toward Indiana’s Big Goal of 60 percent postsecondary attainment by 2025, Commission Members have indicated an interest in knowing more about institutional efforts to identify and support students who are most vulnerable to not succeeding in college, including initial identification of an “at-risk” student, support programs designed for this population and any interventions and support provided when they exit. The Commission will have the opportunity to hear from each public institutions today as they summarize their efforts in this area.

Commissioner Lubbers moderated this session.

III. Business Items

A. Academic Degree Programs for Full Discussion

1. Doctor in Nutrition and Dietetics to be offered by Indiana University at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

Dr. Rafael Bahmonde presented this program. Dr. Ken Sauer provided the staff recommendation.

R-19-02.2 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the academic degree program, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Vidal, second – Alley, unanimously approved)

B. Academic Degree Programs for Expedited Action

1. Master of Science in Nursing to be offered by Indiana University Bloomington
2. Associate of Science in Computer Science to be offered by Vincennes University

R-19-02.3 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the following academic degree programs, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Peterson, second – Fisher, unanimously approved)

C. Capital Projects for Full Discussion

1. Indiana University Bloomington – Renovation of Foster and McNutt Quadrangles and Lease of Space

Dr. Tom Morrison presented this project. Alecia Nafziger provided the staff recommendation.

R-19-02.4 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the following capital project, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Peterson, second – Fisher, unanimously approved)

D. Capital Projects for Expedited Action

1. Indiana University Bloomington – Armstrong Stadium North Grandstand Replacement
2. Ball State University – New Multicultural Center

R-19-02.5 RESOLVED: That the Commission for Higher Education hereby approves the following capital projects, in accordance with the background information provided in this agenda item. (Motion – Peterson, second – Vidal, approved by majority)

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Academic Degree Programs Awaiting Action
- B. Academic Degree Actions Taken By Staff
- C. Media Coverage

**IV. OLD BUSINESS
NEW BUSINESS**

There was none.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:14 P.M.

Chris LaMothe, Chair

Al Hubbard, Secretary