



Executive Committee Meeting (Open/Closed)

Monday, November 5, 2007

8.00-8.45 am

Pikes Peak

Western Interstate
Commission
for Higher Education

www.wiche.edu

Monday, November 5, 2007

8.00 - 8.45 am
Pikes Peak

Executive Committee Meeting (Open and Closed Sessions)

Camille Preus, chair (OR)
Roy Ogawa, vice chair (HI)
David Nething, immediate past chair (ND)

Diane Barrans (AK)
Joel Sideman (AZ)
Position vacant (CA)
David Skaggs (CO)
Roberta Richards (HI)
Position vacant (ID)
Ed Jasmin (MT)
Carl Shaff (NV)
Patricia Sullivan (NM)
William Goetz (ND)
James Sager (OR)
Tad Perry (SD)
Richard Kendell (UT)
Ann Daley (WA)
Klaus Hanson (WY)

Agenda (Open)



Approval of the Executive Committee conference call minutes of September 24, 2007 1-3

Report from the Mental Health Program

Discussion Item: Periodic evaluation of WICHE's performance 1-6

Other

Agenda (Closed)

Information Item: Informal review of the executive director's performance and travel during 2007 1-7

Other*

*Please note: Article III of Bylaws states:

Section 7. Executive Sessions

Executive sessions of the commission may be held at the discretion of the chairman or at the request of any three commissioners present and voting. The executive director shall be present at all executive sessions. The chairman, with the approval of a majority of the commissioners present and voting, may invite other individuals

to attend.

Section 8. Special Executive Sessions

Special executive sessions, limited to the members of the commission, shall be held only to consider the appointment, salary, or tenure of the Executive Director.

ACTION ITEM

Executive Committee Conference Call Minutes

Monday, September 24, 2007

Committee Members Present

Camille Preus (OR), chair
Roy Ogawa (HI), vice chair
Dave Nething (ND), immediate past chair
Diane Barrans (AK)
David Lorenz for Joel Sideman (AZ)
David Skaggs (CO)
Helene Sokugawa (HI)
Ed Jasmin (MT)
Patricia Sullivan (NM)
Tad Perry (SD)
Richard Kendell (UT)

Committee Members Absent

Idaho
William Goetz (ND)
Carl Shaff (NV)
James Sager (OR)
Ann Daley (WA)
Klaus Hanson (WY)

Staff Present

David Longanecker, executive director
Erin Barber, assistant to the executive director
Jere Mock, director of Programs and Services

Chair Preus called the meeting to order and asked Erin Barber to call roll. A quorum was confirmed.

ACTION ITEM

Approval of the Executive Committee Conference Meeting Minutes of August 28, 2007

Longanecker asked for a motion to amend the minutes of the August 28, 2007, WICHE Executive Committee call. Commissioner Nething made a motion. Longanecker proposed amending the minutes to include Commissioner Kendell as being absent from the call. Additionally, Longanecker proposed amending the second sentence in the second paragraph under the "Nontraditional No More" action item to include "at least," so it would read: "At least one of the states will be a WICHE state."

COMMISSIONER JASMIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 28, 2007, MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WITH THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS. COMMISSIONER PERRY SECONDED THE MOTION. The minutes were approved unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEM

Update on the November 2007 Commission Meeting Agenda

Longanecker said that the agenda for the November meeting was coming together with a focus on health and allied health care training and workforce development. The first plenary session will feature Bob Franza from the Seattle Science Foundation, who will serve as the keynote speaker and will also guide a discussion on the second day with the commissioners.

During the second session, a group of providers in health education programs will address what they see as the changing nature of the delivery of health care and its implications for health and allied health care training. Linda Hyman, vice provost of health sciences and director of WWAMI (a consortium including the University of Washington School of Medicine and the states of Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho) at Montana State University will serve on the panel instead of Michael Laskowsky.

The third session will include a panel of health care professionals and providers, including Adam Darkins from the Veterans Administration, who has visionary ideas about the future of health care in the United States. Darkins will discuss some of the things the VA is moving towards doing. We will not be inviting John Barrasso because the panel has enough participants. The committees will meet in the afternoon on the first day of the meeting.

On the second day of the meeting, Franza will lead a guided discussion focused on what was heard from the panels and the implications for WICHE.

During lunch, "What's Up in the West?" will look at how four states are focusing on the delivery of health care and the preparation of health care professionals. The states featured in this discussion will be Alaska, Arizona, Idaho, and Washington.

Commissioner Skaggs asked if Longanecker anticipated nurse training to be discussed on the panels during the meeting. Longanecker said he expected this to be a substantial topic for discussion on both panels. In general, medical professionals are trained in silos but are required to work in teams. Longanecker felt that the speakers would be able to take up this issue and speak to the changing nature of the delivery of medicine and why it will be more team oriented. On another issue, the nursing accreditation association is proposing to phase out the master's in nursing and only implement a doctorate.

Commissioner Skaggs asked if there was a way to include a health topic related to how to deal with public health issues, such as drug-resistance tuberculosis, on the agenda. Longanecker said he would look into how we can work it into the agenda.

INFORMATION ITEM Review of the Budget

Longanecker pointed out that fiscal year 2008 has just begun, so the numbers in the budget are not reflective of how the organization is spending or anticipates spending. In Attachment III, there was an anticipated \$200,000 to be carried forward to the current budget, but \$446,901 was actually carried over. Longanecker said that the budget isn't as strong as it appears. He had received permission to reserve some funds for WCET and the Policy unit to cover the transition as Dolores Mize and Louis Fox started working at WICHE. However, the financing system zeroed out these funds when they began budgeting for future years. The funds did not get incorporated into the official budget (the system zeroes out categories with no expenditures), so the amount is roughly the equivalent of the \$200,000 difference seen in Attachment III. The budgets for fiscal year 2008 for some units, like the Policy unit, look like they will have a slight deficit, but actually they will have a surplus thanks to a new grant from Lumina. That will replenish some of the general fund.

Commissioner Sokugawa commented that it looks like the Policy unit is not the most highly funded program and asked if that was an indication of where the organization was headed. Longanecker said that Policy's 2007 funding looks small mostly due to Cheryl Blanco leaving. Most staff members were funded out of grants. Fiscal year 2008 shows that Policy is back to a normal level. Fiscal 2007 was an anomalous year because of the change in leadership in the unit.

Attachment IV includes a forecast of what the organization will spend and what it has spent, as well as the revenues that have come in. The expenditures are in very good shape and there is a projected budget surplus of \$182,000. Longanecker said they should not expect this level of surplus to last: these numbers are what we have now, only two months into the fiscal year. He plans to look at what the organization is spending and where it needs to spend more. It does show that there are no areas needing special attention at the November meeting. The commission will receive the forecast for fiscal year 2009 at the November meeting.

INFORMATION ITEM \$755,100 Grant Received from Lumina Foundation for Education

WICHE has received the \$755,100 grant from Lumina Foundation for Education. An RFP will go out to the states after the November meeting. The grant will officially begin after November 1. The commissioners congratulated Longanecker, who credited the work of Dolores Mize, director of the Policy Analysis and Research unit.

INFORMATION ITEM
\$100,000 Grant Received from Jobs for the Future

Longanecker reported that WICHE received a \$100,000 grant from Jobs for the Future to update SPIDO (State Policy Inventory Database Online). Louis Fox has been looking into WICHE's web structure and capabilities, which will help make SPIDO a more user-friendly and interactive database. Commissioner Sokugawa commented that there were good policies for Hawaii in SPIDO, but she noticed that many of the links need to be updated. Longanecker said that will be part of the update. In the past Pathways to College has funded the work on the database, but since it no longer provides funds, WICHE is trying to find a system that will easily update the database in the future. Chair Preus asked what the timeframe is for updating SPIDO. Longanecker said it would take approximately six months, but not all of the updates would be up on the web by then. WICHE hopes to receive additional funds from Jobs for the Future.

INFORMATION ITEM
Nomination of Officers

Longanecker said that Chair Preus would be creating a Nominating Committee, and information will then be sent out to the Executive Committee to solicit their nominations for new officers. Commissioner Jasmin asked if anything has been sent out, and Chair Preus said that nothing has been sent out for nominations yet. She asked what the timeframe on this process will be. Longanecker said they could probably get information sent out within the next week or so.

Other Business

There was no other business brought before the Executive Committee.

CHAIR PREUS CALLED FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER NETHING MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2007, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. COMMISSIONER SULLIVAN SECONDED THE MOTION. The motion was approved unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Periodic Evaluation of WICHE's Performance

Summary

The commission has committed to conducting a thorough review of WICHE and its chief of staff every five years. The last evaluation was completed in May 2003. Thus, it is time again to begin the next evaluation, if it is to be completed by the May 2008 commission meeting.

Background

The last major evaluation of WICHE took place in 2003, when the commission secured the services of former WICHE Commissioner Frank Besnette from Arizona to conduct an evaluation of the organization and its executive director. The commissioners' reactions to Besnette's work were quite favorable.

Previous to this, in the 1990s the commission had asked staff to conduct an evaluation of the organization, and the director of the Mental Health Program was charged with that responsibility. While that effort provided some valuable information, it was not generally considered to be a very substantial evaluation.

The forthcoming evaluation can be conducted in any one of a variety of ways. One possible model to consider is the recent evaluation of WCET. Last year, as Louis Fox took on the role of executive director, he arranged for Woodard and Company, a strategic-planning and consulting firm, to evaluate WCET. Woodward provided more than \$100,000 of services, and their review and analysis have proved truly transformational for WCET.

Points of Discussion

The commission needs to determine the strategy and timetable it wishes to pursue and to assess the amount of funding it wishes to devote to the evaluation of the organization. Funds will need to be dedicated from WICHE reserves for this purpose and could be dedicated from either the reserves for unexpected shortfalls or the reserves available for dedication.

INFORMATION ITEM

Executive Director's Travel during 2007

January

4-5	Louisiana Board of Regents' National Advisory Panel	Baton Rouge, LA
10-12	AIHEPS ¹ Conference	New York, NY
14-16	Higher Education in the Federations Conference	Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario, Canada
20	WICHE Officers' Retreat	Seattle, WA

February

3	ACT Education Advisory Committee	Santa Fe, NM
8-9	National Student Clearinghouse Board Meeting	Palm Springs, CA
12	ACE ² Annual Meeting	Washington, D.C.
13	NRHA ³ Health Workforce Shortage Meeting	Washington, D.C.
27-28	SSI Meetings	Washington, D.C.

March

1	Meetings with SURA ⁴ and Blackboard	Washington, D.C.
2	University of Denver Forum on Higher Education	Denver, CO
15	Meetings with Francisco Marmolejo (CONAHEC) ⁵ and Darcy Renfro (Arizona Governor's Office)	Tucson and Phoenix, AZ
22-23	Louisiana Board of Regents' National Advisory Panel	Baton Rouge, LA
28	Meeting with Kristin Conklin (Office of the Undersecretary, U.S. Dept. of Education) and Inside Higher Education	Washington, D.C.
29	AGB ⁶ Cost Project Meeting	Washington, D.C.

April

16	NPEC ⁷ Executive Committee Meeting	Washington, D.C.
25-28	CONAHEC Annual Meeting	Quebec City, Quebec, Canada
30	NCPR ⁸ Advisory Group	New York, NY

May

1	Meetings with Hartford Foundation, Carnegie Corporation, and Sloan Foundation officials	New York, NY
3	Education Writers Group	Los Angeles, CA
20-22	WICHE Commission Meeting	Whitefish, MT
25	Lumina Research Advisory Board	Indianapolis, IN
30	NGA ⁹ Forum on Postsecondary Education	Kansas City, MO

June

5	Meeting with Louis Fox and Marty Smith	Seattle, WA
6	Meeting with Ann Daley	Olympia, WA
7	U.S. Department of Education Seattle Regional Summit	Seattle, WA
8-9	Colorado Higher Education Summit	Colorado Springs, CO
12-13	Macalester College Forum on Higher Education	Evanston, IL
21	SFARN ¹⁰ Conference	Portland, OR
22	Lunch with Camille Preus and James Sager	Salem, OR
25-26	Ford Policy Forum	Denver, CO
28-29	Louisiana Board of Regents' National Advisory Panel	Baton Rouge, LA
30	Meeting with Jason Watson and Tim Hickle (GM Centennial Committee)	Ann Arbor, MI

July

1	Buick Open: Meetings with Officials from GM and Mott Foundation (Funding Opportunities for SSI)	Ann Arbor, MI
16-20	Wellington Group and Annual SHEEO Meeting	Chicago, IL

August

13	CCHE ¹¹ Retreat	Vail, CO
14-15	WA Higher Education Coordinating Board Retreat	Seattle, WA
17	Meeting with Sherri Ranis, Gates Foundation	Seattle, WA
29	P-20 Education Data Systems Working Meeting	Washington, D.C.

September

6	Meeting with Arizona Governors' Office and Joel Sideman and ABOR ¹² staff	Phoenix, AZ
7	Colorado ACT Meeting	Broomfield, CO
17	CSG-West ¹³ Annual Meeting	Jackson Hole, WY
18	Meeting with Barbara Ischinger at OECD ¹⁴ Offices	Washington, D.C.
22	Meeting with Arizona Governor's Office	Phoenix, AZ
26	CPEC ¹⁵ Commission Meeting	Sacramento, CA
27-28	Louisiana Board of Regents' National Advisory Panel	Baton Rouge, LA

October

1-2	National Student Clearinghouse Fall Board Meeting	Washington, D.C.
3	SSI Advisory Board Meeting	Washington, D.C.
3	Meeting with Sara Martinez Tucker, Undersecretary, USED	Washington, D.C.
3	SSI Presentation at Office of Vocational and Adult Education Seminar, USED	Washington, D.C.
5	Lumina Research Advisory Board	Indianapolis, IN
10-11	WICHE Legislative Advisory Committee Meeting	Denver, CO
11-12	NCSL ¹⁶ Legislative Institute	Denver, CO
23	NPEC Executive Committee Meeting	Washington, D.C.

November

1-3	AERA ¹⁷ Meeting	Washington, D.C.
5-6	WICHE Commission Meeting	Denver, CO
7-10	WCET Annual Conference	Atlanta, GA
27	JFF ¹⁸ Meeting regarding Lumina Project	Washington, D.C.

December

6-7	Louisiana Board of Regents' National Advisory Panel	Baton Rouge, LA
13	Technical Assistance – Ford Grant	Anchorage, AK

¹ AIHEPS: Alliance for International Higher Education Policy Studies

² ACE: American Council on Education

³ NRHA: National Rural Health Association

⁴ SURA: Southeastern Universities Research Association

⁵ CONAHEC: Consortium for North American Higher Education Collaboration

⁶ AGB: Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges

⁷ NPEC: National Postsecondary Education Cooperative

⁸ NCPRE: National Center for Postsecondary Research

⁹ NGA: National Governors Association

¹⁰ SFARN: Student Financial Aid Research Network

¹¹ CCHE: Colorado Commission on Higher Education

¹² ABOR: Arizona Board of Regents

¹³ CSG: Council of State Governments-West

¹⁴ OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

¹⁵ CPEC: California Postsecondary Education Commission

¹⁶ NCSL: National Conference of State Legislatures

¹⁷ AERA: American Educational Research Association

¹⁸ JFF: Jobs for the Future