COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Honors Suite
333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA

May 5, 2010

Attending the meeting of the Council of Higher Education were: Dr. Francis Michelini, Chair; Ms. Esther Bush; Dr. Corrinne Caldwell; Ms. Sandra Dungee Glenn; Dr. Francine McNairy; Dr. Lee Williams; and Mr. Andrew Youstic. Absent were: Rep. Paul Clymer; Sen. Andrew Dinniman; Ms. Shannon Farrelly; and Ms. Sheila Dow Ford

The meeting of the Council of Higher Education was called to order at 4:25 p.m. by Dr. Francis Michelini. Dr. Michelini noted that a list of community college sponsors and profile of locations were included in meeting packets.

The minutes from the March 17, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Ms. Esther Bush, seconded by Ms. Sandra Dungee Glenn.

Dr. Michelini turned to Ms. Sandra Edmunds, Deputy Secretary for Postsecondary and Higher Education, for her report.

Ms. Edmunds reported that in 2009, the Butler County Board of Commissioners appropriated $4,900,000 to the Butler County Community College as part of their local sponsorship. The County Controller has refused to release $1,230,000 of these funds, citing the College's outreach programs. PDE leadership is working to resolve the impasse.

Ms. Edmunds advised that Erie County leaders are working to establish a community college for their region. The current timeline calls for an application to be submitted in June 2011; contingent upon approval of the application, classes would begin August 2013. A provision in Act 1 of 2010 provides for 1% of the local share of county gaming revenue to be used for the establishment of the community college.

Ms. Edmunds announced that "*Rising to the 2020 Challenge*" is the theme for the upcoming Governor's Conference on Higher Education to be held in Lancaster (June 9-11).

Ms. Edmunds introduced Dr. David Tandberg, Special Assistant to the Secretary, who provided an update on the Complete College America initiative. Complete College America is a 22-state effort to significantly increase college completion rates by 2020 based on both state- and campus-level targets. Chairman Torsella will lead Pennsylvania's participation in this initiative. The kick-off meeting for Complete College America will be held in June.

Ms. Edmunds reported on the PA College Transfer System and provided summary data of applications submitted by Colleges and Universities for the new certification programs in Chapter 49.2.

Dr. Caldwell asked if the Pennsylvania Department of Education was taking a position on the Butler County Community College controversy. Ms. Edmunds advised that PDE has provided the college with the information they requested.

Dr. Michelini noted that legislative language submitted by the Board to amend Master Plan for Higher Education requirements is awaiting action in the General Assembly.

A resolution honoring the contributions of student member Ms. Shannon Farrelly was read by Dr. McNairy; Ms. Esther Bush seconded the motion.

There were no action items as a result of this meeting.

Adjournment

The Council meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Loraine Spangler

Loraine Spangler
Executive Secretary to the Deputy Secretary
Postsecondary and Higher Education