MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology
750 East King Street, Lancaster, PA 17602

May 18, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 8:45 am by Dr. Francis Michelini.

Attending:

James Barker	Francis Michelini	Shannon Sullivan
Wendy Beetlestone	Ivory Nelson	Karen Farmer White
Sandra Dungee Glenn	Jonathan Peri	Lee Williams
Dan Fogarty	Mollie O'Connell Phillips	Larry Wittig
Kirk Hallett	Edward Sheehan	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the March 16, 2011, meeting of the Council of Higher Education were approved on a **Nelson/Dungee Glenn** motion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COLLEGE ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY/VOCATION TECHNICAL EDUCATION JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING

Dan Fogarty reported on the May 17, 2011 joint meeting of the College Access and Affordability and Vocational Technical Education Committees. Mr. Fogarty reported that Dr. Lee Burket provided an update on activity of the Bureau of Career and Technical Education and Perkins funding. Michael Westover and Amanda Harrison from the Bureau of Adult Basic & Literacy Education gave a follow-up briefing on the increase in the number of requests for Commonwealth Secondary School diplomas earned through the 30 College Credit Program. The committee requested that Mr. Westover monitor the status of such diploma requests and provide an update to the Committee in nine months. The Committee also received an update from Diane Bosak, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges.

TEACHER AND SCHOOL LEADER EFFECTIVENESS COMMITTEE MEETING

Sandra Dungee Glenn reported on the May 17, 2011 meeting of the Teacher and School Leader Effectiveness Committee. Ms. Glenn reported that Terry Barnaby from the Bureau of School Leadership and Teacher Quality provided an update on implementation of revisions to Chapter 49 and also provided a report on emergency permits issued by subject and Instructional I

certificates issued in 2009-2010, as well as teacher shortages reported by LEAs and schools during the 2011-2012 school year.

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY HIGHER EDUCATION

Sandra Edmunds, Deputy Secretary of Postsecondary and Higher Education, provided updates on the following:

Implementation of Chapter 49-2:

New Teacher Certification and Educational Leadership Programs

- All of the expected applications for the new Chapter 49 certificates have been received
- Of the 196 PreK-4, 4-8, and Special Education preK-8 programs, approval is pending on 24 of these new Chapter 49 Certificate programs
- As of May 3, 2011, 20 Superintendent programs, 33 Principal programs, 63 special Education programs, 53 4-8 programs and 67 Pk-4 programs have been approved

Full Review Process Development

- Major Program Reviews will begin in Fall 2011
- Nine institutional reviews were conducted during Cycle I (2011-2012); 12 are slated for Cycle II (2013-2013)
- Rubrics for Full Review are being developed
- Focused training on the required data collection and reporting has been scheduled for June 27, 2011 at PaTTAN
- An electronic submission process tool will be released July 1, 2011

New Certificate Test Development

- The development of new pre-licensure tests continues under the leadership of the Bureau of School Leadership and Teacher Quality.
- PDE is working with Pearson Evaluation Systems on the creation of the new Pre K-4, Special Education and Basic Skills tests. Testing committees composed of public school teachers and teacher preparation program faculty will meet again the week of June 18th to review sample questions. PDE staff participate in weekly phone conferences with Pearson as they move through the test development process.
- PDE is also working with the Educational Testing Services (ETS) on the creation of the new 4-8 certification tests and Educational Leadership tests. The testing committees met the week of April 22, 2011 and developed testing objectives for the 4-8 tests. Once test questions are developed by ETS, the testing committees will meet to review the test questions. PDE participates in weekly phone conferences with ETS as they move through the test development process.

College Textbook Policies Advisory Committee

The second meeting of the Advisory Committee was held in Harrisburg on April 29, 2011. Committee members made presentations highlighting the lifecycle and decision points in

the textbook acquisition process from the faculty, independent bookseller, campus bookstore, and publisher perspectives. In addition, the committee received a national update on current policy and legislative trends from a representative from the National Association of College Bookstores. The meeting concluded with a synopsis of the findings, recommendations and information about best and emerging practices from other states. Members were charged with developing recommendations to decrease the cost of textbooks for students. At the next quarterly meeting, members will review the suggested recommendations developed by their colleagues.

Transfer and Articulation

In December 2010, faculty and personnel from the participating institutions developed major-specific articulation agreements in the fields of Psychology, Mathematics and Pk-4 Education. By August 31, 2011, articulation agreements in nine additional fields of study will be developed:

• 4-8 Education	• Criminal Justice
• Biology	• English
• Business	• Physical Science
• Chemistry	• Physics
• Computer Science	

Agreements in these remaining 14 fields are expected by December 31, 2011:

• Art	• History
• Drama/Theatre	• Modern Languages
• Economics	• Music
• Environmental Science	• Secondary Education
• Geography	• Social Work
• Government/Political Science	• Communication Studies

Agreements developed by August 31, 2011 must be implemented by the institutions by the fall semester of 2012. Agreements developed by December 31, 2011 must be implemented by the fall 2013 semester.

PRESENTATION

Wil delPilar, Higher Education Associate, gave a presentation on the College Access Challenge Grant. The Challenge Grant is a competitive grant used to enhance high schoolers academic preparedness for postsecondary education, build student and family awareness of higher education opportunities and the admissions process, increase access to higher education for low-income students. PDE uses its current grant to support activities of its program partners – Project Grad and PHEAA – and its partner schools. The state is eligible for up to $3.8 million in additional grant funding for 2011-12.

Mr. DelPilar was joined by an audience of students from the Lancaster School District working with Project Grad through the Challenge Grant, as well as Dwight Knowlt, Principal of

McKaskey High School in Lancaster. Two McCaskey students spoke about the difference Project Grad has made for them both academically and in improving their self confidence.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Nikia Owens, Associate Vice President of Project Grad, complimented the way Pennsylvania has implemented its College Access Challenge Grant funds. Dr. Owens reported that Project Grad will use Pennsylvania as a national model for its work in other states.

ACTION ITEMS

0518.1 RESOLUTION REGARDING STANDARDS FOR CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM REQUESTS

A motion to approve the Resolution Regarding Standards for Consideration of Future Alternative Certification Program Requests was made by Sandra Glenn and seconded by Lee Williams.

During discussion on the motion, Ms. Glenn noted that this resolution had been previously approved by the Teacher and School Leader Effectiveness Committee at its public meeting on March 16, 2011. She explained that the resolution emphasizes the importance of the standards the Board included in its November 2010 approval of an alternative certification pathway between Pittsburgh Public Schools and The New Teacher Project, and expresses the Board's resolve that future alternative certification program requests be held to the same standards. These standards include requiring an alternative certification provider to make an interim progress report to the Board; requiring PDE to review the program against the standards for postsecondary post baccalaureate programs within the first two years of operation; and retaining authority for the State Board to modify or terminate approval of the program following its review of the findings and recommendations of PDE's program assessment.

VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by unanimous voice vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Stephanie L. Jones

Stephanie Jones
Administrative Assistant