



Academic Council

May 14, 2024 – 1:00-3:00pm
Colorado Department of Higher Education
REMOTE ONLY

To join the webinar: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 899 9001 4681
Passcode: 178625

Agenda -- **NOTES**

1. Greetings and Introductions

In attendance: Helen Caprioglio (CSU-P); Margaret Doell (ASU); Andrea Duffy (CSU); Katherine Eggert (CU Boulder); Kirsty Fleming (UNC); Kris Greer (FLC); Sarah Heath (CCCS); Cher Hendricks (CMU); Roze Hentschell (CSU-SYS); Andy Herring (CSM); Mike Lightner (CU-SYS); Beth Myers (CU Denver); Constancio Nakuma (CU Denver); Dave Oehler (Aims); Kathryn Regjo (CMC); Audra Spicer (CSU-G); Rebecca Woulfe (CCCS-FRCC); Jess Young (WCU); Christina Carrillo (CDHE); Kim Poast (CDHE)

2. Approval of April Meeting Notes

[see handout: 2024-04-09 NOTES-AC.pdf]

Notes approved

3. Announcements and Discussion Items

a. Updates from CCHE Advisor Michael Lightner

Dr. Lightner was not in attendance at the Commission's May 3 meeting; however, Dr. Poast was able to provide an overview. This included the election for a new chair and vice chair of the Commission – Commissioners Jen Walmer and Lisandra Gonzales were elected as the respective new officers and will begin their new roles shortly. During the work session, which was held prior to the 1:00 business meeting, there was a presentation by the Strada Education Foundation on the new State Opportunity Index Report.

b. 2024 Legislative agenda updates

Dr. Poast provided an overview of the SB24-164 bill summary and implementation plan. The bill seeks to add the following to the Student Bill of Rights (SBOR): cost transparency of postsecondary education programs; seamless transfer of guarantee transfer pathway matrix courses (new statutory name for GT Pathways) and a timely response from institutions on request for transfer credit (30-days); information on why selected courses will not transfer or apply; the right to appeal an institution's decision not



to accept or apply transfer courses; and the right to know what work-related experiences or prior learning opportunities are awarded postsecondary credit (per HB20-1002).

Provisions of the bill include the expansion of the GE Council prior to the end of the calendar year – each of the 31 public institutions (including the area technical colleges) will have a representative on the Council. As such, Department staff have started to draft a “job description” as we consider expansion and the amount of work ahead of this stakeholder group – additional provisions include mandate to review the list of courses in GT Pathway matrix to identify “sticky wickets,” courses that cause problems in transfer.

Academic Council members expressed concern regarding interpretation on various provisions of the bill. Dr. Poast ensured that Department staff will be seeking clarification from the Attorney General’s office regarding the questions institutions have. Council members requested a joint meeting between the various stakeholder groups, such as GE Council, Academic Council, Data Advisory Group (i.e., institutional researchers), and Registrar Council once Department staff received clarification from the AG’s office. Dr. Poast assured Council members that all information will be socialized to all relevant stakeholders once received.

c. Proposed revisions to CCHE Policy Section I, Part L: Statewide Transfer and GT Pathways

Christina provided an overview of proposed revisions to the Statewide Transfer and GT Pathways policy. The revisions codify additional roles and responsibilities for public institutions of higher education and members of the GE Council in regards to statewide transfer articulation agreements as well as the inclusion of the recently adopted (and Commission-endorsed) general education completion credential framework that formally recognizes students when they have fulfilled all GT Pathways requirements. After reviewing the newly added Section 7.03 *Colorado GenEd Foundational Skills Credential*, GE Council members requested that language be added to reflect “the prerogative of institutions to determine whether to award the credential, as well as the credential name, documentation, and method of award.” Christina informed Academic Council members that this language will be added, and the updated policy will be sent out to GE Council members for final review. Academic Council members had no questions regarding the proposed revisions.

4. New, modified, and closed programs

New

None

Modified

University of Colorado Boulder

- Bachelor of Arts in Astronomy changed to Bachelor of Arts in Astrophysical and Planetary Sciences

University of Colorado Colorado Springs

- PhD in Security changed to PhD in Cybersecurity

Closed Programs

None

