



**COLORADO**

Department of  
Higher Education

1600 Broadway, Suite 2200  
Denver, CO 80202

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Academic Council</b> <b>October 8, 2024</b> <b>1:00 – 3:00 pm</b>
<b>Location</b>	Remote ONLY
<b>Conference Room</b>	
<b>Call-In Information</b>	<a href="#">Join Zoom Meeting</a> Meeting ID: 853 7415 0727 Passcode: 464712
<b>Meeting Participants</b>	
<b>Meeting Objectives</b>	

## AGENDA

### 1. Greetings and Introductions

In attendance: Helen Caprioglio (CSUP); Margaret Doell (ASU); Katherine Eggert (CU Boulder); Kirsty Fleming (UNC); Kris Greer (FLC); Kyle Gruenhagen (UCCS); Karla Hardesty (CMC); Mike Lightner (CU SYS); Rick Miranda (CSU SYS); Beth Myers (CU Denver); Laura Niesen de Abruna (MSU Denver); Dave Oehler (Aims); Shaun Schafer (MSU Denver); Audra Spicer (CSUG); Michelle Stanley (CSU); Susan Taylor (UCCS); Linda Van Doren (EGTC); Rebecca Woulfe (CCCS-FRCC); Noah Finkelstein (CU Boulder); Stephanie Kramer (HLC); Zach Waymer (HLC); Christina Carrillo (CDHE); Carl Einhaus (CDHE); Peter Fritz (CDHE)

### 2. Approval of September Meeting Notes

[see handout: 2024-09-10 NOTES-AC.pdf]

Notes approved

### 3. Announcements and Discussion Items

#### a. Updates from CCHE Advisor Michael Lightner

Dr. Lightner informed Council members that the CCHE's next Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 24 – he will have a more robust update at the next Council meeting.

#### b. Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Reduced-Credit Bachelor's Programs (Zach Waymer, HLC, 1:30 pm)

Zach Waymer, Government Affairs Officer, and Stephanie Kramer, Director of Accreditation Systems, discussed a variety of topics with Council members regarding the decision from HLC to allow for reduced-credit bachelor's degrees. They reviewed the background, different scenarios, application, guidelines, and substantive change review and decision processes. They also provided resources for institutions who may wish to pursue this avenue.

Carl led Council members in a robust discussion regarding institutional concerns about how reduced-credit bachelor's degrees would be received by several stakeholders, most importantly students. Carl assured council members that the Department would engage in a mindful, deliberative, and proactive process that would allow institutions to make informed decisions. Carl also informed council members that Department staff would consult with the Colorado Office of the Attorney General regarding whether a statutory change would be needed to allow institutions to offer reduced-bachelor's degrees.

#### 4. New, modified, and closed programs

##### a. New

- Colorado State University
  - Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering
- Colorado State University – Global Campus
  - Undergraduate Certificate in Business Administration with Leadership Fundamentals
  - Undergraduate Certificate in Computer Programming with Leadership Fundamentals
  - Undergraduate Certificate in Cybersecurity with Leadership Fundamentals
  - Undergraduate Certificate in Data Management and Analysis with Leadership Fundamentals
  - Undergraduate Certificate in Digital Marketing with Leadership Fundamentals
  - Undergraduate Certificate in Information Technology Operations with Leadership Fundamentals
  - Undergraduate Certificate in Marketing with Leadership Fundamentals
  - Undergraduate Certificate in Project Management with Leadership Fundamentals
  - Undergraduate Certificate in Web Application Development with Leadership Fundamentals
- Community College of Aurora
  - Bachelor of Applied Science in Behavioral Health
- Community College of Denver
  - Bachelor of Applied Science in Behavioral Health

1600 Broadway, Suite 2200, Denver, CO 80202

Phone 303-862-3001 • Email [CDHE@dhe.state.co.us](mailto:CDHE@dhe.state.co.us)

[www.highered.colorado.gov](http://www.highered.colorado.gov)



- Morgan Community College
  - Bachelor of Applied Science in Elementary Education
  - Bachelor of Applied Science in Technical Education
- Pikes Peak State College
  - Bachelor of Applied Science in Behavioral Health
- Pueblo Community College
  - Bachelor of Applied Science in Behavioral Health
- University of Colorado Denver
  - Undergraduate Certificate in Applied Skills for Democracy

b. Modified

- None

c. Closed Programs

- None

**ACTION ITEMS**

Issue	Action / Next Step	Assigned To & Date Assigned

