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| **Meeting** | **CCHE Standing Committee on Student Success & Workforce Alignment**  **Monday, April 21, 2025**  **1:00 - 3:00 p.m.** |
| Location | Remote only |
| Zoom Information | [Join Zoom Meeting](https://highered-colorado-gov.zoom.us/j/84830579194?pwd=oO2Jgl8VETamcFLIO4tg36cmgQxarm.1)  Meeting ID: 848 3057 9194  Passcode: 123683 |
| Meeting Participants | CCHE SS&AA Standing Committee |
| Meeting Objectives | Discuss student success and academic affairs topics in Colorado to advance practices and policies |

**A = in attendance, E = excused absence, N = not in attendance (Bolded Commissioners are official committee members)**

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| **ATTENDANCE** | | | | | | | |
| **Commissioners & Advisors** | | | | | | | |
| **Chair Berrick Abramson** | A | Eric Tucker | A | **Lisandra Gonzales** | A | Sarah Hughes | N |
| Danielle Ongart | N | Mark Cavanaugh | N | **Jim Wilson** | N | Leilani Domingo | N |
| Michael Lightner | A | **Ana Cristina Temu** | A | Melinda Piket-May | A | **Jennifer Walmer** | A |
| **CDHE Staff** | | | | | | | |
| Carl Einhaus | A | Liliana Diaz Solodukhin | A | Brad Griffith | A | Christina Carrillo | A |
| Heather Delange | A | Beverly Jones | A | Cynthia Armendariz |  | Angie Paccione |  |
| Peter Fritz |  | Renée Welch | A | Chealsye Bowley |  | Sophia Laderman |  |
| Gillian McKnight-Tutein | A | Sam Fogleman |  | Jack Wolflink |  | Michael Vente |  |
| **Guests** | | | | | | | |
| Jeff Smith | A | Helen Caprioglio | A | Whitney Herring | A | The Capstone Group | A |
| Erin Silver | A |  |  |  |  |  |  |

# AGENDA

1:00 p.m. Greetings and Introductions

*Berrick Abramson, Committee Chair*

Brad Griffith – Getting to know our new Senior Director of Academic Pathways and Innovation

Commissioner Abramson invited Carl Einhaus, Chief Student Success and Academic Affairs Officer, to introduce Brad Griffith, the new Senior Director of Academic Pathways and Innovation for DHE. Brad then provided information about his background and previous experience and answered questions from Committee members.

1:05 p.m. Approve notes for February and March meetings

*Berrick Abramson, Committee Chair*

Commissioner Gonzales motioned to approve the notes for both the February and March meetings. Commissioner Walmer seconded the motion. No objections were made – notes approved.

1:10 p.m. Strategy discussion/[1330 recommendations](https://highered.colorado.gov/Publications/Reports/Legislative/1330/2021_SSWR_Task_Force_Report.pdf)

* Postsecondary pathways for student success: turning ideas into action. Questions to Commissioners based on information received on pathways in Colorado:
  + Any pathways you need more information on?
  + Based on what you learned, what can CCHE do to contribute to this work?
  + What outside collaborators should CCHE be working with?

*Berrick Abramson, Committee Chair*

Commissioner Abramson led Committee members in a discussion to summarize the learning that has occurred over the last few months. Committee members agreed that they would like to learn more about unifying the various streams of work that are already occurring amongst state agencies around work-based learning. They also discussed wanting to learn more about short term pathways – what programs are available for students and where are they available. Committee members also expressed a desire for updates on past legislation, such as HB21-1330.

Committee members also expressed an interest in learning more about how educational skills and competencies can lead to multiple careers. Commissioner Abramson encouraged members to consider what the role of CCHE is and what outcome they want to produce as we move toward the summer retreat – he would like to come to the retreat with a vision and action plan for this committee’s work for the upcoming academic year.

* Work Development Updates in DHE

*Dr. Gillian McKnight-Tutein (Dr. G), Senior Educational Equity Officer*

Dr. G provided an update on the Office of Educational Equity (OEE). Dr. G informed Committee members that the OEE has recently been restructured and is now the Office of Educational Equity, Workforce Development, and Social Mobility. This internal restructuring more accurately reflects the priorities of DHE. Beverly Jones, Director of Industry Partnerships, and Renée Welch, Director of Career Connected Learning and Workforce Development, will now report to Dr. G and will move into the OEE from their previous posts in other divisions.

1:35 p.m. Compelling discussion on informational items

* Approval of Cannabis-Related Certificate Program at Colorado State University Pueblo (see attachments)

*Christina Carrillo, Academic Policy Officer and Advocate and Brad Griffith, Senior Director of Academic Pathways and Innovation*

Christina provided an overview of an agenda item that will appear before the Commission at its May meeting – staff is recommending the approval of the cannabis-related certificate program at Colorado State University Pueblo (CSUP). Christina informed Committee members that the 16-credit hour undergraduate certificate was approved by the CSU Board of Governors in December 2024 and submitted to DHE staff for review the following month. DHE staff then submitted the proposal to the Institute of Cannabis Research (ICR) governing board for review and input as required by statute and policy. Once feedback was received from the ICR, CSUP provided additional information, as requested by the ICR. DHE staff then opened a 30-day public comment period and placed it on the Academic Council agenda in March for discussion.

Commissioner Tucker motioned to move this agenda item to Consent. Commissioner Gonzales seconded the motion. No objections were made – motion approved.

* Degree Authorization Act
  + Approval of Religious Training Institution (see Agenda Item – Approval of Religious Training Institution for Trinity International University)

*Heather DeLange, Director, Office of Private Postsecondary Education*

Heather provided an overview of an agenda item that will appear before the Commission at its May meeting – staff is recommending the approval of authorization for Trinity International University to operate as a religious training institution in Colorado.

Commissioner Tucker motioned to move this agenda item to Consent. Commissioner Walmer seconded the motion. No objections were made – motion approved.

Next meeting date: Monday, June 2, 2025

# ACTION ITEMS

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| **Issue** | **Action / Next Step** | **Assigned To & Date Assigned** |
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