

**IOWA COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
January 18, 2013  
10:00 a.m.  
Iowa College Student Aid Commission  
603 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Des Moines, Iowa 50319  
Conference Room**

**Members Present:**

Janet Adams	Roger Claypool
Bob Donley	Cindy Winckler
Crystal Ford	Karolyn Wells
Jeremy Varner	

**Members Present by Phone:**

Doug Shull

**Members Absent:**

Randy Feenstra	Herman Quirnbach
Robert Denson	Fred Moore
Elizabeth Sullivan	Ron Jorgensen

**Staff Present:**

Todd Brown	Heather Doe
Julie Ntem	Julie Leeper
Karen Misjak	Carolyn Small
Kris May	

**Attorney General Present:**

David VanCompernelle

**Guests Present:**

Angela Carlson	Capri College
Dawn Nardini	Ashford University
Robin Madison	Legislative Services Agency
Heather Gaumer	Simpson College
Matt Brown	Iowa Student Loan

**Guests Present by Phone:**

Chris Reeves	Shiloh University
Daniel Loht	The Pennsylvania State University
Paul Massman	Concordia University Irvine
Michael Shreve	Savannah College of Art and Design

## **Call to Order**

The Iowa College Student Aid Commission met for a regularly scheduled meeting on January 18, 2013. Commission Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. without a quorum present.

## **Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Misjak updated Commissioner's on the Biennial Report submitted to United States Department of Education. The report shows the early assessment of GEAR UP Iowa cohorts (Class of 2014) is gaining in reading, math and science proficiency compared to the Class of 2013.

Ms. Misjak reported that new employees at the Commission include Kris May, Jesa Wolthuzen, Tim Henriksen, Cara Graziano and Joe Dullard.

This is the time of year for completing the FASFA. In the first 17 days, 1,178 FASFAs have been filed.

The building in which the Commission is currently housed is to be tore down July 1<sup>st</sup>. A new location has not been found yet. We are looking at Iowa Workforce Development for \$13.50 per square foot and Riverfront for \$10 per square foot, but neither is an ideal spot. We will continue to look at properties.

Great Lakes projected revenues for 3 months to be approximately \$1,297,338. For those 3 months the Commission has received a total amount of \$1,271,823.

Commissioner Doug Shull dialed in by phone at 10:14 am. Quorum present.

## **Legislative Committee Report**

Julie Leeper gave an overview of a white paper being prepared for legislators at the legislative committee meeting held this morning. Legislators have been asking questions regarding the Commission's programs and financing, and this white paper is designed to answer those questions. As a result of feedback from the Legislative Committee, staff will update this document and send it to the Commission for review.

## **Meeting Minutes November 16, 2012**

Motion: Commissioner Ford moved to approve the November 16, 2012 Meeting Minutes as written. Commissioner Wells seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **Consent Agenda**

Chair Adams asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion: Commissioner Shull moved to approve the consent agenda as written to include: Postsecondary Registrations for Shiloh University 13-01-D1, Concordia University Irvine 13-01-D7, Savannah College of Art and Design 13-01-D12, and The Pennsylvania State University 13-01-D18. Commissioner Donley seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## Staff Reports

Kris May gave an update on December 2012, FY2013 year-to-date financials.

Ms. Misjak gave an update on the Commission's Strategic Plan. A consultant has been hired to facilitate two half-day meetings with staff, to be followed up by a full-day meeting to which Commissioners will be invited. We will wrap up the plan in March, at which time we will ask for approval of the 3-year Strategic Plan. Julie Leeper gave a wrap up of the 2010-2012 Strategic Plan. There were 3 goals: the Commission has funding that supports and enhances its services; Iowa students and families plan, prepare and pay for education beyond high school; and the Commission is Iowa's partner for value-added higher education information and resources.

Goal 1: Two federal grants, College Access Challenge Grant and GEAR UP, were received to support the Commission on its goals. The Commission reduced costs from FY2010 totaling \$20.61 million to \$13.7 million by FY2012. Cost reductions included decreasing expenditures in marketing, rent, FFELP, and staff.

Goal 2: The Commission focused on key publications and increasing the number of outreach channels. A Financial Literacy Program was launched. Commissioner Donley inquired about how the Commission tracks the success of our programs on default rate. Ms. Misjak responded that there is tracking data available from the US Department of Education, and stated the Commission is receiving more questions from parents and students due to the publicity around higher student loan debt.

Goal 3: The Commission has partnered with several organizations to add value to higher education information and resources.

Julie Leeper gave an update on the Commission's Pro-treat held July 31, and August 1, 2012. Many of the action items discussed during the Pro-treat will be addressed in the next Strategic Planning process. Eight major categories were discussed: request for information, cost benefit per program, how we analyze the data, technical issues, Postsecondary Registration, I Have A Plan Iowa® and Financial Literacy, issues that require Code changes and legislative action, funding concerns and other issues.

There have been several discussions on automating the process for Postsecondary Registration. Commissioner Varner asked if we have enhanced I Have A Plan Iowa® with hot jobs. Staff has been in contact with XAP regarding this issue. EverFi developed the Financial Literacy and Buttonwood programs. Representative Winckler and Commissioner Claypool praised EverFi for the work it does. Representative Winckler suggested the Commission work with the State Library to have financial literacy information available in libraries. Commissioner Varner inquired about I Have A Plan Iowa® and Clearinghouse partnership. Ms. Misjak stated staff met with the Clearinghouse, and is continuing those discussions.

In response to further Pro-treat discussions, Representative Winckler stated she understands the National Guard has concerns with requiring its members to file the FASFA, but she feels it is essential that Guard members do complete the FASFA so that they do not miss opportunities for assistance in funding their education.

Julie Ntem gave an update on I Have A Plan Iowa®. As of January 15, 2013, 291,218 total accounts have been created. By role they include Middle and High School, 212,007; Parents

8,937; Postsecondary 62,723; and Adults 7,551. Since July 1, 2012 there have been 39,934 new accounts created. Ms. Ntem provided a graph which explained the number of accounts created. Representative Winckler inquired about trying to focus on urban schools to increase that number. Ms. Ntem stated staff is working on this with GEAR UP and I Have A Plan Iowa® trainers but stated we don't want to forget about the rural students as well. Starting in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, all students must create portfolios, complete career interest assessments, career cluster assessments, identify career clusters of interest, build course plans for high school and obtain parent's approval. In 9<sup>th</sup> grade, students complete the interest profiler assessment, a career assessment linking interests and school subjects, revise and rebuild their course plan and complete a student reflection paragraph. In 10<sup>th</sup> grade, students complete a work values and beliefs survey, compare career options side by side, compare colleges and programs side by side, review and revise their course plan and complete a student reflection paragraph.

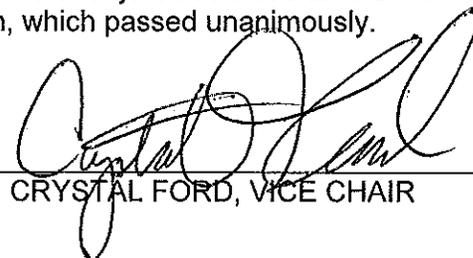
Commissioner Donley asked if students are using test prep. Ms. Ntem stated growth has occurred; however, not as many are using this as we would like. GEAR UP and I Have A Plan Iowa® trainers are working to promote it.

In 11<sup>th</sup> grade, students complete a skills inventory checklist or assessment, create a resume and cover letter, compare schools and programs side by side, note any postsecondary visits (virtual or physical), complete a practice postsecondary application, research financial aid information and scholarship information, review and revise their course plan and complete a student reflection paragraph. In 12<sup>th</sup> grade, students retake the interest profiler and compare results with 9<sup>th</sup> grade results, retake a career assessment linking school subjects and careers and compare results with 9<sup>th</sup> grade, review schools and colleges and indicate choices, research job interview information and complete a job interview practice, review and revise their career plan and postsecondary opportunities and complete a student reflection paragraph. Representative Winckler stated in grades 10 and 11, staff should provide information about test prep to get students engaged and aware of ACT test prep.

Commissioner Varner stated work keys assessments should be integrated and wondered if there is a way to automate. Ms. Ntem stated the vendor has noted this request.

Motion: Commissioner Donley moved to adjourn at 11:06 a.m. Commissioner Ford seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

  
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JANET ADAMS, CHAIR

  
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CRYSTAL FORD, VICE CHAIR