



Frank Edelblut
Commissioner

Christine M. Brennan
Deputy Commissioner

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Division of Educator Support and Higher Education
Higher Education Commission
101 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301
TEL. (603) 271-3495
FAX (603) 271-1953

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 14, 2019

A meeting of the Higher Education Commission was held at 3 Barrell Court in Concord at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 14, 2019 with the following members present:

Michele Perkins, Chair
Donald Birx, Vice Chair
Michael Apfelberg
Sr. Paula Marie Buley
Frank Edelblut
Mark Laliberte
Todd Leach
Kim Mooney (via telephone – vote does not count)
Mark Rubinstein
Susan Stuebner
Melinda Treadwell
Alfred Williams

The following members were unable to attend:

John Curran
James Dean
Steven DiSalvo
Ross Gittell
Paul LeBlanc
Charles Lloyd

- 1) Chair Perkins called the meeting to order. She welcomed Susan Stuebner, President of Colby-Sawyer College. She also acknowledged the departure of Steve DiSalvo, President of Saint Anselm College, and Peter Koch, representative of the American Council for Professional Education and Training.
- 2) Mr. Leach moved, seconded by Sr. Paula Marie Buley, to accept the minutes of February 12, 2019. The motion passed without dissent.

- 3) Richard Gustafson presented the request from Colby-Sawyer College to continue to offer the Master of Science in Nursing. He served as an observer at the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education's site visit on February 26-28, 2018, where all Standards were met.

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education granted accreditation for five years with the next on-site evaluation to take place in the spring of 2023, with compliance and improvement reports due on December 1, 2019 and June 1, 2021.

It was recommended the Commission vote to extend degree-granting authority for the Master of Science in Nursing through December 31, 2023 to align with the accrediting entities.

This approval is with the condition that copies of all correspondence and reports to and from the New England Commission of Higher Education and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education be forwarded to the Commission. Additionally, the Commission would be invited to observe any scheduled visits. Participation as an observer at site visits would be determined upon review and receipt of correspondence.

Mr. Leach moved, seconded by Sr. Paula Marie Buley, to accept the recommendation. The motion passed without dissent, with Ms. Stuebner abstaining.

- 4) Richard Gustafson presented the request from Cornell University to continue to offer the Executive Boardroom Site Portion of the Cornell-Queens Executive Master of Business Administration at 23 Keewaydin Drive in Salem, NH. This mature program started in 2005 and was first approved by the Commission in December, 2008, and again in 2011 and 2013.

With all Standards met, it was recommended the Commission vote to extend degree-granting authority for the Executive Boardroom Site Portion of the Cornell-Queens Executive Master of Business Administration (MBA Americas Program) in Salem, NH without a terminal date.

This approval was with the condition that the University submits annual reports by December 31, 2019 and annually thereafter regarding any program changes at the New Hampshire site, including:

- Enrollments/completions
- Any substantive curricular changes
- Any significant changes in faculty
- Verification of accreditation

Mr. Edelblut moved, seconded by Ms. Treadwell, to accept the recommendation. The motion passed without dissent.

- 5) Director Seidel presented the request from Hellenic American University to change the name of its Bachelor of Science in Information Technology to a Bachelor of Science in Informatics and its Master of Science in Information Technology to a Master of Science in Informatics. Re-naming the new titles better reflect the current curricular content already approved by the Commission. Neither the program structure, curricular content nor the graduation requirements have changed, but simply the name to align it with the curriculum, the jobs its graduates are obtaining, and the designations being used in the marketplace.

It was recommended the Commission vote to change the name designation of the University's Bachelor of Science in Information Technology to a Bachelor of Science in Informatics and its Master of Science in Information Technology to a Master of Science in Informatics to align the degree designation with the current practice in the profession.

Mr. Leach moved, seconded by Mr. Edelblut, to accept the recommendation. The motion passed without dissent.

- 6) Richard O'Loughlin presented the request from Hellenic American University to offer the Associate of Science in Aviation. Team members included Richard O'Loughlin, Aviation Operations Administrator and Kyle Viator, Assistant Dean, Southern New Hampshire University's College of Engineering, Technology, and Aeronautics. This offering will complement the current University offerings within the various STEM fields, while providing students with the opportunity to gain a basic set of academic knowledge in the fundamentals of aviation industry. The program is a solid option for students who would like to follow careers in flight operations or technical fields such as airport management, maintenance or dispatch. The graduate would be equipped with the applied knowledge and experience that will lead to employment or further academic opportunities.

With all Standards being met, it was recommended the Commission vote to approve degree-granting authority for the Associate of Science in Aviation through December 31, 2023 with a progress report due December 31, 2021 summarizing any new developments, additional staff, enrollment numbers and general status of the program.

This approval is with the condition that copies of all materials (including annual reports) to/from the New England Commission of Higher Education be forwarded to the Commission. Additionally, the Commission would be invited to attend any site visit(s). Participation as an observer at site visit(s) would be determined upon receipt and review of correspondence.

Mr. Edelblut moved, seconded by Ms. Treadwell, to accept the recommendation. The motion passed without dissent.

- 7) Kevin Wayne, Associate Professor of Business Administration at Rivier University, presented the request from Hellenic American University to offer the Master of Science in Sales Management.

With all Standards being met, it was recommended the Commission vote to approve degree-granting authority for the Master of Science in Sales Management through December 31, 2023 with a progress report due December 31, 2021 summarizing any new developments, additional staff, enrollment numbers and general status of the program.

This approval is with the condition that copies of all materials (including annual reports) to/from the New England Commission of Higher Education be forwarded to the Commission. Additionally, the Commission would be invited to attend any site visit(s). Participation as an observer at site visit(s) would be determined upon receipt and review of correspondence.

Mr. Leach moved, seconded by Mr. Edelblut, to accept the recommendation. The motion passed without dissent.

- 8) Director Seidel presented the request from the New Hampshire Institute of Art to continue to offer all degrees. The New Hampshire Institute of Art and New England College have been approved by the Commission to hold a two-phase proposal for a merger of the two institutions. The formal merger began on December 27, 2018 with the approval of both Boards of Trustees. It was recommended the Commission vote to continue degree-granting authority to the New Hampshire Institute of Art until December 31, 2019.

This is with the requirement that all correspondence and reports to/from the New England Commission of Higher Education and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

Mr. Leach moved, seconded by Ms. Treadwell, to accept the recommendation. The motion passed without dissent.

- 9) Director Seidel presented the request from Northeast Catholic College to change its name back to "Magdalen College." The Board of Trustees believes with the support of the senior faculty, administrators, and key alumni, that it should reclaim and redeem the name "Magdalen College."

Per RSA 292:8g, the Commission is required to approve all name changes. As such, it is recommended the Commission vote to approve the name change to "Magdalen College."

Mr. Edelblut moved, seconded by Mr. Laliberte, to accept the recommendation. The motion passed without dissent.

- 10) Richard Gustafson presented the request from Rivier University to continue to offer the Doctor of Nursing Practice. The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing conducted an on-site visit to Rivier University on October 9 – 11, 2018 to evaluate the program. Richard Gustafson observed for the Commission. At its meeting in March 2019, the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing granted initial accreditation scheduled the next evaluation visit for the fall of 2023.

It was recommended the Commission vote to approve the Doctor of Nursing Practice program at Rivier University through June 30, 2024 to align with the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing continued approval process.

This approval is with the condition that copies of all correspondence to and from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing be forwarded to the Commission. Additionally, the Commission would be invited to attend any scheduled visits. Participation as an observer at site visits would be determined upon review and receipt of correspondence.

Mr. Leach moved, seconded by Ms. Treadwell, to accept the recommendation. The motion passed without dissent, with Sr. Paula Marie abstaining.

- 11) Director Seidel presented the request from Rivier University to continue to offer the Doctor of Psychology in Counseling and School Psychology. The American Psychological Association conducted an on-site visit to Rivier University on Friday, October 19, 2018 to evaluate the program.

The American Psychological Association voted to initially “accredit, on contingency” the Doctor of Psychology in Counseling and School Psychology. “Accredited, on contingency” is granted only if the program meets all standards except for the inclusion of all required outcome data on students in the program and after program completion.

It was recommended the Commission vote to approve the Doctor of Psychology in Counseling and School Psychology through June 30, 2023 to align with the continued American Psychological Association’s approval process.

This approval is with the condition that copies of all correspondence to and from the American Psychological Association be forwarded to the Commission. Additionally, the Commission would be invited to attend any scheduled visits. Participation as an observer at site visits would be determined upon review and receipt of correspondence.

Ms. Stuebner moved, seconded by Ms. Treadwell, to accept the recommendation. The motion passed without dissent, with Sr. Paula Marie abstaining.

- 12) Director Seidel *for* Gavin Henning, Professor Higher Education, New England College, presented the request from Southern New Hampshire University to offer the Doctor of Philosophy in Education Leadership. The request for review provides the basis to create a strong Doctor of Philosophy in Education Leadership program at SNHU. The Ph.D. program will complement the current Ed.D. program by providing students a research-based degree option in addition to the practice-based degree option. Building on the current infrastructure of the Ed.D. program, additional resources will be minimal and will be addressed in the enrollment in the new Ph.D. program.

It was recommended the Commission vote to approve degree-granting authority without a terminal date for the Doctor of Philosophy in Education Leadership.

This approval is with the condition that copies of all correspondence and reports to and from the New England Commission of Higher Education be forwarded to the Commission. Additionally, the Commission would be invited to observe any scheduled visits. Participation as an observer at site visits would be determined upon review and receipt of correspondence.

Sr. Paula Marie moved, seconded by Ms. Treadwell, to accept the recommendation. The motion passed without dissent.

- 13) Director Seidel presented the request from St. Joseph School of Nursing to continue to offer the Associate of Science in Nursing. The School is overseen by two accrediting entities: the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing with the next site visit in the fall of 2025; and the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools & Colleges with the next site visit July 1, 2020. The NH Board of Nursing also approves the school, but it is currently on probation due to low NCLEX scores. After 18 months of probation, it will be required to appear before and present to the Board a current analysis of program effectiveness, problems identified, outcomes of correction plan and timeline for improvement if the nursing program has not (1) demonstrated consistent measurable progress; (2) maintained NCLEX scores for the first time test takers above the national benchmark for its graduates.

It was recommended the Commission vote to extend degree-granting authority for the Associate of Science in Nursing until December 31, 2020 to align with accrediting entities.

This approval is with the condition that copies of all correspondence to and from the Accrediting Commission for Education in Nursing, the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges and the NH Board of Nursing be forwarded to the Commission. Additionally, the Commission would be invited to attend any scheduled visits. Participation as an observer at site visits would be determined upon review and receipt of correspondence.

Mr. Edelblut moved, seconded by Ms. Treadwell, to accept the recommendation. The motion passed without dissent.

- 14) Jeffrey Newman presented the request from the John Mason Institute to close its Term Deposit Account. John Mason Institute is a non-degree-granting computer training school located in Nashua, NH. It has been licensed with the Office of Career School Licensing since 2010. The ambiguity of the statute relative to releasing a term deposit for schools who continue to operate has compelled the Office of Career School Licensing to seek approval from the Higher Education Commission.

It was recommended the Commission vote to approve the release of John Mason Institute's Term Deposit Account in the approximate amount of \$12,365 upon license renewal.

Mr. Edelblut moved, seconded by Mr. Leach, to accept the recommendation. The motion passed without dissent.

- 15) Jeffrey Newman presented the request from StoneMakers Academy to close its Term Deposit Account. StoneMakers Academy is a non-degree-granting stone masonry school located in Merrimack, NH. It has been licensed with the Office of Career School Licensing since 2012. The ambiguity of the statute relative to releasing a term deposit for schools which continue to operate has compelled the Office of Career School Licensing to seek approval from the Higher Education Commission.

It was recommended the Commission vote to approve the release of Stonemaker's Term Deposit Account in the approximate amount of \$113,056 upon license renewal.

Mr. Edelblut moved, seconded by Ms. Treadwell, to accept the recommendation. The motion passed without dissent.

- 16) Director Seidel presented highlights of the Director's Report.
- 17) Under "Director's Report: Spring 2019 Research and News," Mr. Laliberte inquired about the report being available on a monthly basis as it proves valuable. Director Seidel will inquire about producing the report monthly and placing it on the Department of Education's website.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.