

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 29, 2015

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman DeMordaunt, Vice Chairman VanOrden, Representatives Shepherd, Wills, Boyle, Clow, Gestrin, Harris, Mendive, McDonald, Dixon, Kerby, Pence, Kloc, Rubel (Green)

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative Wills

GUESTS: Robin Nettinga and Matt Compton, IEA

Chairman DeMordaunt called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Kloc** made a motion to approve the minutes of January 22, 2015. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Tony Fernández, President, Lewis and Clark State College (LCSC), gave the annual report on LCSC. He said LCSC is dedicated to serving the student. It is a teaching institution, not a research institution. He indicated there were 37 counties represented within the student body. He said it is the most affordable Idaho college, focusing on: teaching, learning and career preparation. He added LCSC has intensive faculty to student interaction with efficient operations and a strong commitment to collaboration: "K-Career" perspectives. He described the goals of the comprehensive five-year strategic plan and reported on the enrollment trends. President Fernández highlighted the student success on national exams and spoke to the percentage of student procurement of licensure. Since LCSC is also focused on its regional needs, the college offers classroom instruction in Millwright Training. He presented the LCSC FY2016 Budget and key funding requests for the Legislature.

Responding to questions from the committee, **President Fernández** explained the mentor program and the required community service. He said today's career demands are highest in health care and retail. To keep the enrollment rising, LCSC plans to promote post-secondary education at the high schools. He indicated LCSC plans to use more college-enrolled students to coach high school students to improve Idaho's "go on" rate.

To a question concerning the maximum capacity of the college, **President Fernández** said including students enrolled in dual credit courses, there are 4,200 registered students. He said the current capacity of LCSC is an enrollment of 6,000. To further questions, he told the committee the student to teacher ratio is 15 to one. In 2014 LCSC graduated 700 in various programs; some of those were in Professional-Technical fields which is about 15 percent of the student population. In order to meet the 60% Goal, the college is trying to promote name recognition and attract working adults without post-secondary degrees. He said CWI and LCSC are in the process of signing an agreement for the transfer of credits and to educate students to the benefits of "going on."

Dr. Chuck Staben, President, University of Idaho (U of I), reported on Idaho's land-grant research university. He said U of I is committed to developing solutions for complex problems facing Idaho; their outreach serves Idaho and strengthens teaching, scholarship and creativity. He emphasized the many research centers and county extension offices throughout the state. He said one of U of I's goals is to grow Idaho's economy and the university has an economic impact of nearly one billion dollars statewide. The enrollment is 11,534 students, 93 percent are full-time.

President Staben spoke about partnering with key industries, plus the role of U of I in assisting the dairy and agricultural industries. He described the university's expansion, and fund raising campaigns. He expressed appreciation to the Legislature in supporting U of I and stated the university was also focused on the state's 60% goal. He addressed U of I's push to keep students out of debt; the university offers \$25 million in financial aid, plus work study programs. He told lawmakers he supported the Governor's Budget Recommendations.

Responding to questions from the committee, **President Staben** said U of I is working with the dairy industry on milk production, sustainability of the industry and eliminating the environmental problems. He also spoke of the problems involved with university research ownership and the industry investment in the research. He said the university seed sector of research pays for itself and some research agreements may have distant commercial value.

In response to further questions, **President Staben** said there is not competition with the state colleges and university in research, however, there is nationally. Regarding the competition for students, he indicated the competition is not simply state schools, but the most competition lies in the loss of students to other states. He said Idaho is at the top for exporting students to other states, mainly Utah. He stated the average graduation time at U of I is six years. To further questions, he indicated most of the students admitted to U of I come college-ready. The re-mediation is mainly in math. He said 16 percent of students graduating from Idaho schools are prepared for admission to U of I, however, those students choose not to "go on." He indicated they have used the IGEM program, but had no data available.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Representative DeMordaunt
Chair

Jean Vance
Secretary