

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 27, 2022

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Clow, Vice Chairman Kerby, Representatives Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Marshall, Wisniewski, Galloway, Yamamoto, McCann, McCrostie, Berch, Toone

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Moon

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of the session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

Chairman Clow called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

MOTION: **Rep. Toone** made a motion to approve the minutes of January 24, 2022. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Dr. Dean Fisher, President, College of Southern Idaho, introduced the community college presidents and discussed their cyber security initiatives. Dr. Fisher discussed the CSI's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He shared that most CSI students are Idaho natives and not from Nevada. CSI is expanding their health care worker programs to fit the needs of Idaho. Dr. Fisher explained CSI's bachelor program in operations management.

Gordon Jones, President, College of Western Idaho, shared how CWI is enabling all students to attend a higher education institution. President Jones discussed CWI's different programs and how they are creating programs for all types of students. He discussed **Governor Little's** budget recommendation and how they will use their allotment for a new health science building.

Dr. Michael Sebaaly, Interim President, North Idaho College, discussed the expansion of the nursing program and creation of their dental hygiene program. He shared how they are creating a lineman internship program to fit the needs of Idaho.

Dr. Rick Aman, President, College of Eastern Idaho, requested support of **Governor Little's** budget recommendation and shared how they will spend their allotment. He shared how CEI is being affected by the labor shortage. Dr. Aman discussed how they are seeing an increased number of nursing students and a need for engineering students. He explained the emphasis of CEI being placed on expanding their workforce development programs and discussed the different challenges community colleges face.

In response to Committee questions, **President Jones** shared how they are recruiting students for programs to meet Idaho's needs. He discussed how CWI is working towards having 90% of their classes online to better serve students.

In response to Committee questions, **President Aman**, discussed how CEI is expanding its engineering and cyber security programs.

In response to Committee questions, about complaints relating to critical race theory, social emotional learning, racism, or indoctrination, **Dr. Fisher, Dr. Sebaaly, and Dr. Aman**, shared they have received no complaints regarding these topics. **President Jones** shared they had received a complaint, but it was resolved.

In response to Committee questions, **President Sebaaly** explained the process behind NIC's search for a new president. He also shared ways they are encouraging Idahoans to continue their education.

In response to Committee questions, **President Fisher** discussed a program where dual credit students, after graduating high school, do not need to reapply for enrollment. He also shared ways they are removing barriers to encourage more Idaho students to continue on to higher education.

Dr. Tracy Farnsworth, President, Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine, shared how ICOM is Idaho's first medical school and it is designed to increase the number of physicians within Idaho. He discussed the private/public partnership between ICOM and Idaho State University and how they are collaborating on research. Dr. Farnsworth shared 20% of ICOM students are from Idaho and discussed the economical impact of one doctor. He discussed ICOM's student retention rate of 97%.

In response to Committee questions, **Dr. Farnsworth** discussed how students are placed for their residency. He shared how funds are being raised to encourage students to stay and work in rural Idaho. Dr. Farnsworth described the difference and similarities between a DO and MD and how ICOM is recruiting both.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the committee adjourned at 10:36 am.

Representative Clow
Chair

Elbia Christensen
Secretary