

BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary
Education Commission

DATE	Thursday, April 30, 2020
TIME	1:00 PM
LOCATION	Via teleconference
PURPOSE	Special Called Commission Meeting

Meeting Chair	Mollie Cohen
Meeting Title	Board of Commissioners
Members Present	Mollie Cohen, Chair Toby Hinton, Secretary Lee Todd Ryan Blythe Victoria Agyekum Holly Kirbo
Members Absent	Karen Gilbert, Vice Chair Amanda Shailendra Dr. Arthur Vaughn Dr. Norma Nunez-Cortes
Staff Present	Kirk Shook, Executive Director Dr. Laura Vieth, Deputy Director Shirlene Mitchell, Administrative Supervisor/Office Manager Pat Neri, Program Manager Maggie Rivers, Program Manager Michael Kaiser, Regulatory Specialist
Visitors	Kayla Washington, Office of Planning & Budget Kristen Settlemire, Office of the Attorney General Brian Annino, GSFC General Counsel Stephen Blackwood, Director, Ralston College

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Chair Cohen called the meeting to order at 1:00pm via Zoom. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Agyekum moved to adopt the Agenda for the April 30, 2020 Special Called Commission Meeting of the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission. Commissioner Kirbo seconded the motion.

Upon unanimous vote, it was **RESOLVED** that the Agenda for the April 30, 2020 Special Called Commission Meeting of the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission be adopted.

3. APPROVAL OF ARGOSY BOND DISBURSEMENT ACTION

Executive Director Shook presented the Argosy Bond Disbursement Action plan agreed to by the TGTF Trustees.

Secretary Hinton moved to approve the Argosy Bond Disbursement Action plan approved by the TGTF Trustees. Commissioner Agyekum seconded the motion.

Upon unanimous vote, it was **RESOLVED** that the Argosy Bond Disbursement Action plan be adopted.

4. APPROVAL OF POLICY CHANGES

Chair Cohen opened the floor for the reading of submitted comments or those wishing to speak regarding policy changes. Director Shook presented a written submission from Ralston College opposing the passage of *Policy 14: Permitted Programming of Unaccredited Institutions*. Additionally, Stephen Blackwood from Ralston College offered to answer any questions the Commissioners might have concerning his opposition to Policy 14.

Secretary Hinton moved to adopt the current language presented as *Policy 14: Permitted Programming of Unaccredited Institutions*. Commissioner Kirbo seconded the motion.

Upon unanimous vote, it was **RESOLVED** that *Policy 14: Permitted Programming of Unaccredited Institutions* be adopted.

Policy 14 will read as thus:

1. Any institution that is not institutionally accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education may not offer any graduate-level degree in Georgia (including but not limited to master's degrees and doctorate degrees).
2. For any unaccredited institution authorized to offer a graduate level degree in Georgia or which has submitted a materially complete application for authorization, as determined by the Commission in its sole discretion, to offer a graduate level degree in Georgia prior to July 1, 2020, that institution will have until July 1, 2023 to obtain accreditation with an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or be a candidate for accreditation status with an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education and, in the sole determination of GNPEC, showing substantial progress toward becoming fully institutionally accredited by July 1, 2024.
3. An accredited institution will not be permitted to offer any degree program that is not directly included as part of its institutional accreditation or other programmatic accreditation recognized by the United States Department of Education.

5. OTHER BUSINESS


The next Quarterly Commission Meeting is July 27, 2020, 2020 at 1pm (via teleconference).

6. ADJOURN

Secretary Hinton moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Agyekum seconded the motion.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM.

COMMISSION CHAIR APPROVAL:


Mollie Cohen (Jul 30, 2020 09:37 EDT)

Signature

Jul 30, 2020

Date

COMMISSION SECRETARY APPROVAL:


Toby Hinton (Aug 7, 2020 08:43 EDT)

Signature

Aug 7, 2020

Date









April 30, 2020 Commission Minutes (Special Called Meeting)

Final Audit Report

2020-08-07

Created:	2020-07-29
By:	Kirk Shook (kshook@gnpec.ga.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAA-JPDpowwggwASZpSbQ-885zrAHV57JtbM

"April 30, 2020 Commission Minutes (Special Called Meeting)" History

-  Document created by Kirk Shook (kshook@gnpec.ga.gov)
2020-07-29 - 1:54:07 PM GMT- IP address: 99.116.223.85
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2020-07-29 - 1:54:41 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Mollie Cohen (mkcohen20@hotmail.com)
2020-07-30 - 1:36:09 PM GMT- IP address: 107.77.215.185
-  Document e-signed by Mollie Cohen (mkcohen20@hotmail.com)
Signature Date: 2020-07-30 - 1:37:05 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 107.77.215.185
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2020-07-30 - 1:37:06 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Toby Hinton (tobyhinton@bellsouth.net)
2020-07-30 - 9:30:55 PM GMT- IP address: 66.249.88.31
-  Document e-signed by Toby Hinton (tobyhinton@bellsouth.net)
Signature Date: 2020-08-07 - 12:43:47 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 68.77.255.247
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2020-08-07 - 12:43:47 PM GMT