



STATE HIGHER EDUCATION EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

3035 Center Green Drive, Suite 100 • Boulder, CO 80301-2205 • 303-541-1600 • Fax: 303-541-1639 • email:

sheeo@sheeo.org • www.sheeo.org

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Contact: Paul Lingenfelter, President
(303.541.1605)

Email: plingenfelter@sheeo.org;

SHEEO appoints Federal Relations Committee

Boulder, Colorado – Reginald L. Robinson, President and CEO of the Kansas Board of Regents and Chair of the Executive Committee of SHEEO, the national association of state higher education executives, has appointed the following members of the association to its Federal Relations Committee:

David E. Skaggs, Chair
Executive Director
Colorado Department of Higher Education

James H. McCormick, Vice Chair
Chancellor
Minnesota State Colleges & Universities

Reed Dasenbrock
Cabinet Secretary
New Mexico Higher Education Department

Robert Donley
Executive Director
Board of Regents State of Iowa

Judy Erwin
Executive Director
Illinois Board of Higher Education

Glen D. Johnson
Chancellor
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

Daniel J. LaVista
Executive Director
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Michael P. Meotti
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Higher Education

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Kevin P. Reilly

President

University of Wisconsin System

James O. Rose

Executive Director

Wyoming Community College Commission

In making these appointments, Robinson indicated that the Federal Relations Committee will be responsible for shaping SHEEO's federal priorities and strategies and leading its communications with the Congress and the next presidential administration during the transition period and over the next four years. The committee will pursue the implementation of the recommendations outlined in an open letter SHEEO sent to the presidential candidates this past year. The letter (endorsed by both the members and 45 former members of SHEEO) can be found at:

<http://www.sheeo.org/federal/SHEEO%20Letter%20to%20Candidates%20in%20Change.pdf>

The SHEEO letter urged the candidates running for President of the United States to “clearly and explicitly commit your campaign and your administration to reestablishing and sustaining a higher education system that is second to no other nation in its quality and productivity” in order to meet a growing demand for postsecondary education in the labor market and increasing global competition for higher wage jobs. It provides specific recommendations for federal policy and outlines the state responsibilities that are essential for meeting these national priorities.

Paul Lingenfelter, president of the association, commented, “While both the states and federal government are clearly challenged by current economic conditions, our long-term prosperity and national security depend, more than ever, on the knowledge and skills of the American people. A strong, effective partnership between the states and the federal government in higher education is essential to our future. I am grateful to each member of SHEEO who has agreed to serve on this committee.”

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SHEEO, the national association of the chief executives of statewide governing boards and coordinating boards for postsecondary education, works to assist its members and the states in developing and sustaining excellent systems of higher education.

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