

*For inclusion in the open session minutes of the Commission's September 13, 2021 meeting*

Closed Session Minutes:

On September 13, 2021, during a special meeting at 1:00 p.m. held online via GoToMeeting, the Maryland Higher Education Commission voted to move into closed session. The closed session was held online via GoToMeeting, through a non-public link separate from that used for the open session portion of the meeting. The purpose of the closed session was to review the Secretary's decision not to recommend a degree program proposal under COMAR 13B.02.03.28. The program was a Doctor of Physical Therapy by Stevenson University.

The Commission members who voted in favor of meeting in closed session were: Craig Williams, Chuck McDaniels, James Coleman, Vera Jackson, Vivian Boyd, Mary Pat Seurkamp, Haleemat Adekoya, Ray Serrano, and Senchal Barrolle. Commissioners not in attendance were: Lewis Brown and James Sellinger.

The statutory authorities for closing the session were §§ 3-305 and 3-103 of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Specifically, the session was closed under § 3-103(a) to carry out the administrative function of reviewing a program proposal pursuant to Title 11 of the Education Article, Annotated Code of Maryland; and under § 3-305(b)(7) to obtain the legal advice of counsel regarding program review.

The closed session commenced at approximately 2:40 p.m. The topic of discussion at the closed session was the review of the Secretary's decision to not recommend the proposed Stevenson University Doctor of Physical Therapy under COMAR 13B.02.03.28. The persons present were: Commissioners Chuck McDaniels, James Coleman, Vera Jackson, Vivian Boyd, Mary Pat Seurkamp, Haleemat Adekoya, Ray Serrano, and Senchal Barrolle; and Assistant Attorney General Soma Kedia. The action taken during closed session was to uphold the Secretary's decision to not recommend the proposed degree program. The closed session adjourned at approximately 3:10 p.m.