TO: Regent Laws & Policies Stakeholders
FROM: Michael Lightner, Vice President for Academic Affairs
       Jill Taylor, Director of Academic Program and Policy Analysis
DATE: February 12, 2018
RE: Recommended Changes to Article 7 and Related Policies

Background
The regent laws and policies review project is driven by the guiding principle that laws should
capture only high-level statements on governance and policies should include the necessary
elaborations of law but no more. The goal is to focus on the powers and responsibilities of the
Board of Regents while assigning operational procedures to APS or campus policy. This goal
will be pursued while keeping in mind protections currently afforded members of the
university community.

The laws and policies under the main purview of academic affairs are being reviewed in a
comprehensive manner. In this case, draft revisions of laws and policies related to students
(currently Article 7 and policies 7A-7C) are being presented together.

Revision and Review Process
The proposed revisions are being shared with student governance groups, faculty governance
groups, and posted on a public website. This is the first draft of the revised version of Article 7
and the related policies. There will be 45-day review period during which students, faculty, and
other interested parties can provide feedback. Following a review of that feedback, a second
draft will be developed and a 30-day review period will be given before a final draft is
developed and submitted to the Board of Regents Governance Committee for consideration. If
the Governance Committee endorses the recommendations presented at that time, the
document will go to the full board for consideration.

It is likely that the changes ultimately adopted by the Board of Regents will require changes to
existing Administrative Policy Statements (APSs) or the creation of new APSs. This work will be
completed before the approved changes to Regent Law and Policy will take effect.

A summary of the proposed changes is provided below. Comments must be received by
March 31, 2018 to ensure they are considered for the second draft.
Recommendations for Article 7

Part A: Admission

- Revised sections 7.A.1, 7.A.2, and 7.A.3 to make a more concise statement about admission goals, criteria, and processes and to eliminate nonessential language.
- Statements about the chancellor’s responsibility for admission processes were moved to regent policy (draft policy 7.A).
- A statement was added to indicate that university policies must comply with state law and policies of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education.

Justification: The revised statements retain the key principles of current regent law, while eliminating unnecessary language. The draft language also makes an explicit statement about adherence to state law and CCHE policies that address university admission processes.

Part B: Standards of Conduct

- Statements in Regent Law were revised to reflect high-level principles, retaining only the requirements that campuses establish standards of conduct and students abide by standards of conduct. More detailed statements were moved to Regent Policy (draft policy 7.B.).

Justification: Regent Law was revised to capture high-level governing principles.

Part C: Summary Suspension and Compulsory Withdrawal for Improper Conduct

- Eliminated with key elements moved to Regent Policy (draft policy 7.B).

Justification: Statements addressing sanctions for violations of standards of conduct are more appropriately captured in the Regent Policy that addresses standards of student conduct.

Part D: Student Government

- Statements in Regent Law were revised to reflect high-level principles and more detailed statements were moved to Regent Policy (draft policy 7.B). The draft language in Regent Law retains the statement that students shall be represented by a student government organization and the recognition of the Intercampus Student Forum as the body that represents students of all campuses before the board.

Justification: Regent Law was revised to capture high-level governing principles.

Recommendations for related regent policies

- Policy 7A: Minimum Academic Preparation Standards for Undergraduate Admission (MAPS)
  - Remove from Regent Policy and address in an Administrative Policy Statement (APS).

Justification: MAPS requirements are more appropriate to APS.
• **Policy 7B: Student Government Reporting Responsibilities**
  
  ◦ Maintain requirement that student government organizations report to the chancellor (draft Policy 7D).
  
  ◦ Maintain the right of the student government organization to appeal to the president if there is unresolved dispute with the chancellor; however eliminate the ability to appeal to the Board of Regents (draft Policy 7D).
  
  Justification: Maintains key elements of existing policy but revises the appeals process to be consistent with the structure of other Laws and Policies.

• **Policy 7C: Report to Board of Regents on Disciplinary Suspensions and Compulsory Withdrawals**
  
  ◦ Eliminate.
  
  Justification: A mandated biannual report seems unnecessary, as this information can be provided to the board upon request.

**Additions to Regent Policy**

• **Draft Policy 7A: Admissions**
  
  ◦ Statements about the chancellor’s responsibility for admission processes were moved from Regent Law (current 7.A.4) to regent policy (draft policy 7.A).

• **Draft Policy 7B: Standards of Conduct**
  
  ◦ Maintains key principles currently found in Regent Law (Part B: Standards of Conduct and Part C: Summary Suspension and Compulsory Withdrawal). Language has been updated, and statements related to sanctions (suspension and expulsion) have been updated to reflect current practices.

• **Draft Article 7C and Draft Policy 7C: Academic Freedom**
  
  ◦ Current Law and Policy gives very little attention to the academic freedom of students. The new draft law and policy establish both the rights and responsibilities of students as they relate to open inquiry and discussion in the classroom.

• **Draft Policy 7D: Student Government Operations**
  
  ◦ The draft policy includes statements currently found in regent law. It retains language relating to procedures for the approval of governing documents and amendments to those documents, and statements related to operations.
  
  ◦ The draft policy does not retain the section currently found in Regent Law (7.D(C)) that names the specific student government groups on each campus. The rationale is that students and campus leadership should determine the name and structure of their governing groups.