WASHINGTON STUDENT
ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL
EDUCATION · OPPORTUNITY · RESULTS

December 16, 2013
South Seattle Community College, Georgetown Campus
Seattle, Washington

MINUTES

Members attending

Scott Brittain, Marty Brown, Jeff Charbonneau, Maud Daudon, Paul Francis, Ray Lawton, Rai Nauman Mumtaz, Susana Reyes

Staff attending

Gene Sharratt, Aaron Wyatt, Becca Kenna Schenk, Christy England-Siegerdt, Crystal Vaughan, Don Bennett, Emily Persky, Jeffrey Powell, Jim West, Kristin Ritter, Marc Webster, Noreen Light, Rachelle Sharpe, Randy Spaulding, Rochelle Wambach, Steve Thorndill, Weiya Liang

The meeting was called to order at 8:55 a.m. by Secretary Ray Lawton.

Consent Agenda

Motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
Motion seconded.
Motion carried.

Approval of November 20 Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes with a few grammatical corrections.
Motion seconded.
Motion carried.

Roadmap Review, Work Plan, and Communication Plan

Christy England-Siegerdt, Director, Research and Planning
Randy Spaulding, Director, Academic Affairs and Policy
Aaron Wyatt, Communications Director

The Council formally submitted the Roadmap report to the Legislature on December 3, 2013. Council members had an opportunity to review the final copy. Council members also received an overview of the media plan, a component of the Roadmap communications plan, and a 2014 work plan for the highest priority Roadmap action items and the Strategic Action Plan.

Recommendation and Adoption of 2014 Council Meeting Calendar

The Council agreed on the every other month council meetings with committee meetings on alternate months. The meeting schedule is as follows:

- February 3
- April 24
- June 11 – 12
- August 20 – 21
- October 8 – 9
- November 19 – 20

Roadmap Legislative Update and WSAC Legislative Support Discussion

Becca Kenna-Schenk, Director of Government Relations

Council members and staff presented to several committees in the House and Senate during Legislative Assembly Days, held in Olympia, November 19-22. The Roadmap was the focus of the Council's presentations to the Joint Higher Education Committee and the House Higher Education Committee. During the 2014 Legislative Session, the Council will be actively tracking legislation related to the goals and strategies included in the Roadmap. The following are noted as the Student Achievement Council's legislative priorities for the 2014 session:

- Fully-fund College Bound Scholarship.
    ◦ $12M to serve all 8,000 eligible students for FY 14-15.
- Increase students served by the State Need Grant Program.
    ◦ $16M to increase number by 3,800 for FY 14-15.
- Adopt education attainment goals for 2023.
    ◦ All Washington adults have a high school diploma or equivalent.
    ◦ At least 70 percent of Washingtonians have a postsecondary credential.
- Support legislation aligned with Ten-year Roadmap priorities.
- Eliminate unnecessary or duplicative state regulatory requirements.

WSIPP Report: The Effectiveness of Washington's State Need Grant Program

Neil Bania, Senior Research Associate, Washington State Institute for Public Policy
Mason Burley, Senior Research Associate, Washington State Institute for Public Policy

The Washington State Institute for Public Policy was asked to evaluate the academic outcomes of State Need Grant (SNG) students. WSIPP conducted a longitudinal study to determine the extent which SNG has increased access and degree attainment. The report findings are to be released in January 2014 available on www.wsipp.wa.gov.

The legislative direction called for the study to determine to what extent the program has increased access and degree attainment for low-income students and whether the funding has been utilized efficiently. Mason described the process to build the dataset and some of the

evaluation challenges, including standardizing longitudinal data for multiple cohorts and accounting for unique student and institutional differences while isolating SNG dollars from other sources of aid. The reason outcomes for unserved students were not compared was provided, including their different profile with higher incomes and higher part-time rates, the crossover between served and unserved, and that there were fewer unserved students at the beginning of the study.

Neil described the evaluation approach using regression discontinuity using the median family income (MFI) cutoffs (assignment variable) with the reduced award amounts (treatment). Mason noted SNG dollars are positively related to enrollment persistence and degree completion. WSIPP analyzed the grant formulas used in other states to run the hypothetical impact in Washington. The study also includes information about student credits earned, graduation rates, types of degrees, and financial resources by type of student.

13th Year Progress Report

Gary Oertli, President, South Seattle Community College
Elizabeth Pluhta, Associate Vice President, South Seattle Community College

The 13th Year Promise Scholarship was designed by South Seattle Community College to increase access to postsecondary education for community college students, particularly those from underrepresented groups. The scholarship guarantees that all graduating seniors from three feeder high schools: Cleveland, Chief Sealth, and Rainier Beach, have the opportunity to attend South Seattle Community College tuition-free for one year.

South Seattle Community College came up with the idea and the funds three years ago after seeing research that demonstrated students who finished one year of college had improved outcomes. The funds were raised through private donations and fundraisers.

Since the program began in 2008, almost 400 Cleveland, Chief Sealth, and Rainier graduates have enrolled at South Seattle Community College with the 13th Year Scholarship.

Roadmap Survey: Student Perspective

Rai Nauman Mumtaz, WSAC Student Representative

This research served as a pilot study and snapshot of students' perspectives within the public baccalaureate sector on WSAC's proposed 10-year education roadmap. A brief overview was given of feedback gathered from the Washington Student Association in the form of focus groups and a survey regarding the WSAC Roadmap.

Overall, students perceived 23 of the 24 action item recommendations to be

"very important" or "somewhat important". The only item the majority of the students rated "somewhat unimportant" was: "monitor and report on system-wide programmatic, physical, and technological capacity."

State Board of Education

Ben Rarick, Executive Director, State Board of Education

Ben Rarick, Executive Director of the State Board of Education updated the Council on recent work by the Board to support implementation of new state standards, move forward on a college and career ready diploma, and update the federal accountability reporting system.

Student Financial Assistance

State Need Grant, Less-than-Half-Time Report

Aerospace Loan Program Report

Rachelle Sharpe, Senior Director for Student Financial Aid and Support Services

The *Annual Report on Student Financial Aid Programs* covers the 2011-12 and 2012-13 fiscal years providing a summary of aid-related legislation, key data highlights, updates from college access programs managed by the Council, and program expenditures and budget information. Program briefs are included to provide additional background for each program.

The State Need Grant Less-Than-Half-Time Report highlights are:

- Most students (93%) attend public two-year colleges.
- Students are more likely to be first-generation, independent, and have children.
- Students enroll less-than-half-time temporarily (84%).

The Aerospace Loan Program Report highlights are:

- 251 loans awarded out of 521 applications to date.
    - 50 in 2011-12, 185 in 2012-13, and 16 in 2013-14.
- 187 recipients are in repayment.
    - 15 have paid in full.
- Employment survey (54% response) indicates 78% were employed, 30% in the aerospace field.

WICHE Multi-State Data Exchange Project

- David Longanecker, President
- Brian Prescott, Director of Policy Research

With support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, WICHE has embarked on a project entitled Facilitating Development of a Multi-State Longitudinal Data Exchange. The goal of the project is to pilot a data exchange among several states - initially, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Hawaii - and to build a sustainable resource among these four states and potentially others. Comprehensive efforts to link

education and workforce data inform policymakers and practitioners over and above what current linked data (based principally on data found within a single state) can provide.