

## Council Meeting Minutes

August 31, 2022

9:00am

Zoom

### Members Attending (alphabetical by last name):

Jeff Charbonneau, Ruben Flores, Paul Francis, Evangelina Galvan Shreeve, Sativah Jones, Dr. Terri Standish-Kuon, Mustapha Samateh, Davon Thomas, and Jeff Vincent.

### Staff Attending (alphabetical by last name):

Abby Chien, Lindsay Cunningham, Crystal Hall, Heather Hudson, Isaac Kwakye, Kara Larson, Ami Magisos, Michael Meotti, David Mitchell, Jamison Murphy, Inez Olive, Brian Richardson, Rathi Sudhakara, Katie Tallman, Becky Thompson, and Sarah Weiss.

### Meeting called to order at 9:00am

#### Consent Agenda

Motion made to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

#### Approval of the Minutes

Motion made to approve the May Council Meeting Minutes.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

#### Executive Director Update

**Presenter:** Michael Meotti

**Material:** [2022 Strategic Action Plan](#)

- Welcome to new Council Members Ruben Flores and Mustapha Samateh.
- Highlight updated Strategic Action Plan for 2022 which will be updated annually
  - Two Key parts: Snapshot of existing WSAC policy and annual work plan
- Move from a calendar year planning cycle to a fiscal/school year work plan by April/May

Comments: Should Running Start be in both Enrollment and Affordability? Dual enrollment increases enrollment in a certain way and whether it increases affordability is a separate measure.

#### Regional Challenge Grants

**Presenter:** Heather Hudson & Michael Meotti

**Material:** [Good Jobs Challenge](#) & [Regional Challenge Grant Update](#)

**Discussion:** Heather Hudson offered perspective on Good Jobs Challenge. Comments, observations, and questions included:

- Good Jobs Challenge is focused on COVID recovery and jobs, particularly focused on industries that are struggling from COVID to get people trained and ready for jobs that is fast and responsive.
- WA received 23.5 million over the next 3 years. Plan to reach 5,000 WA residents and expect 3,000 to get jobs.
- WSAC is the lead manager of the fund but working very closely with ESD and all other Career Connect partners.
- The grants are distributed and administered by ESD and largely driven around industry partnerships.
- There are 6 industry sector partnerships are Advance Manufacturing and Aerospace, Construction, Energy and Clean Tech, Financial Services, Healthcare, IT and Cyber Security

**Discussion:** Michael Meotti offered perspective on Regional Challenge Grants. Comments, observations, and questions included:

- Empower community leadership to embark on a social change to increase opportunity for WA residents. In that regard, it has to be place based in our community and in regions.
- Looking for existing partnerships that are broad based and we support them as they lead the work.
- There must be a focus on closing ethnic gaps.
- Engaged over 150 entities, 300 people with public sessions, just about every month, starting in June. In July, there was a hosted community session and then in August there was a panel of nationwide leaders.
- WSAC intends to talk to as many applicants as we can to really understand their intentions. WSAC has a history of working around the state, but it has been highly targeted. This has totally changed the game for us as it is an opportunity for us to actively partner.
- For those that may not received the funding, WSAC plans to be the connector and facilitator to additional funding sources.
- How do we jump start on some things and move quickly but at the same time, do it right?
- Seen as the next iteration as WSAC's work.
- There is concern around the timeline of the grant and application process. This is the beginning stage of a multi-year program. This the best approach to get things going.
- Has all the tools to foster a college going culture.

### **Approval of RFI**

Motion made to approve the RFI proposed in the materials.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

### **Approve Budget and Policy Requests**

**Presenter:** Michael Meotti

**Material:** [Legislative Proposals](#)

**Discussion:** We have two budget decision packages (DPs) which are asks for money, and an agency request legislation, which is a bill, to talk through and engage any questions, comments, or discussion

- One DP is to request the Regional Challenge Grants be funded at \$17 million a year for each year in the biennium.
- The second item on the Telehealth Mental and Behavioral Health access pilot.
  - Mental and behavioral healthcare postsecondary needs are rising and outpacing the capacity of campus and community providers. Mental health is one top reason students are dropping out of college.
  - Mental and behavioral health is a critical need to states postsecondary attainment goal.
  - The proposal has two parts: To partner with 4 interested institutions for a multi-institution provider. All students would have access to the provider. The second part of the proposal is that WSAC with contract for a rigorous external evaluation to provide a study of telehealth services including a cost analysis.

Comments, observations, and questions included:

- The current proposal is that public and tribal institutions would be included in the four institutions. The Council is urged to move forward with a decision package that makes it possible for not-for-profit universities to raise their hand for this project.
- How do we make sure that people who are in rural communities or don't have access to computers/laptops consistently, still have access to the mental and behavioral health provider?
- Veterans are also an important demographic to look at.
- Recommend an increase in the amount to promote the program.
- How could we leverage the existing services out there? Maybe we need more than four institutions if we are looking at expanding the existing pool.
- Importance of cultural awareness especially in the rural communities and potentially dual language offerings. Consider the aspects and the messaging as mental health still has a stigma attached to it to reach all communities.
- Is this pilot too small in scope? Should it be all institutions? If we don't emphasize how important this is, then we won't get it.
- Initially the \$2 million was focused on the telehealth provided and the evaluation. There would be room at with the current proposed partners to included participation of evaluation.
- The model is that we would use the appropriation to do a master contract with the participating institutions but also used part of the appropriation would be given to the participating institutions to support outreach on their campuses.
- We need to maintain the notion that this is a pilot meant to test the value of this approach and so we can be ambitious by enlarging the scope of the pilot but we are not attempting to be a service provider for all students across the state and need for behavioral health. WSAC is not looking to be the provider of the services systemically going forward. This is an opportunity to demonstrate the way the state can make a targeted investment and something legislators are hearing about.
- Recommended to double the institutions to 8 at \$4 million.
- Maybe we need two different discussions. One for a pilot and potentially a second for all the partner institutions on this call can come together as a coalition to legislature to ask for mental health funding across the state for 2 year and 4 year, public and private non-profit, so that everyone is getting an additional investment at the institution level to support students.
- It was recommended to move to \$6 million and twelve institutions.
- This is a targeted approach for those who could benefit from an online option. We are going to see what it's like to have WSAC negotiate multiple institutions of higher education in a contract of telehealth provider. Is there value to this coordinated effort to buying contracts?

- Why don't we go in at \$8 million which would give of 16 institutions with the idea that if we got that, great, but if we at least end up with 8 through the legislative process because it is thought that it does need to be more than 4.
- Final amendment is to increase to \$8 million and 16 institutions for all types of institutions annually. We would be asking for two years in the biennium.

#### **Amendment to Mental and Behavioral Health Pilot**

Motion made to amend pilot proposed in materials.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

- State Financial Aid Pilot programs: we have a robust state financial aid program in the Washington College Grant and was modeled on the federal process. There is an extraordinary amount of innovative activity out there with earn/learn models from companies.
- There is an idea to have a limited experimental authority to conduct test sites outside of the statutory limits.
- We would, on occasion, invite applications for a cohort of experimental sites. There would be a limitation of how much we could handle as an agency and how big these would be. We would do an invitation for proposals that would be open to public comment and that the council is the entity that would authorize us to submit a request for application to be an experimental test site and approve test sites. There would be limits on that.
- The specific area that is in the earn/learn model is in healthcare.
- It is possible to model it like the apprenticeship grant. This could create a model to test different approaches to dual enrollment and creates the opportunity to think through some of the issues around non-credit programs that currently cannot be covered.
- The agency has rule-making authority that must fit within the statutory structure. This would extend our ability to do time limited and participant limited experiments that would go beyond our rule making and certain elements in the statute.

#### **Approve 2023 Legislative Proposals**

Motion to Approve 2023 Legislative Proposals with Amendment.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

#### **October 18 Council Meeting Details**

**Presenter:** Abbey Chien

- October 18<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting will be in the Tri-Cities at WSU Tri-Cities in-person with a virtual option.
- This meeting is being co-hosted with Evangelina Galvan-Shreeve at PNNL and WSU Tri-Cities who is providing the space.
- There will be a morning Council Meeting, an opportunity to talk with PNNL Science Ambassadors during lunch, and an afternoon STEM Alliance Meeting also at WSU Tri-Cities followed by a LIGO tour which is an amazing STEM facility in the Tri-Cities.
- There is an opportunity for a dinner engagement the night before the meeting.

**Discussion: Equity in Education: Washington Profile****Presenter:** Isaac Kwakye**Material:** [Equity](#)

**Discussion:** How equity is helping us drive our work and having the key indicators to each cluster area along with an equity disaggregation of those key indicators.

- Washington is working to increase education attainment so that 70% of adults aged 25-44 years within each racial and ethnic community and region will have a certification. There are ongoing disparities.
- The document shows the disparities by racial groups. People with lower income tend to have lower educational attainment. Attainment begins well before college.
- Addressing these equity gaps in education can help diminish barriers and improve outcomes for WA residents so they will have the opportunity to lead productive lives and contribute the economic success of our state.
- COVID-19 has disrupted higher education system and been difficult for students and families. It has also opened opportunities to think about some of the inequities that have existed in our system and to intentionally build back better than what it has been.
- We are working to provide data and research points to inform the Council conversations around education and to track our students' pathways through our system to help close those equity gaps.

Comments, observations, and questions included:

- Is it possible further disaggregate this not only by race but also income? To add a further breakdown to income and racial impact.
- Yes, this fits very well into current work that we are looking to do made of the Governor's executive order.
- We have an agreement and project ongoing to revive the affordability model and maintain it going forward.
- How do we get this in the hands for practitioners? While we are building larger systems, how do we keep the people on the ground informed?
- The new strategy is that isn't not enough to produce the reports, but we are starting to build a process to engage with practitioners. There will be a new approach that is being developed.
- Page 6 edit: Break out the combined some college and associate area of the WA unemployment rate graph to share the data

**Public Comment**

[See Appendix](#)

**Meeting Adjourned:** 11:37am

**Appendix A**TVW meeting recording**Appendix B**

- 09:04:44 From Lindsay Cunningham (she/her) to Everyone:  
Welcome, please use the chat to introduce yourself.
- 09:05:02 From Lindsay Cunningham (she/her) to Everyone:  
My name is Lindsay Cunningham (she/her), WSAC staff.
- 09:05:24 From Ami Magisos to Everyone:  
Good morning! Ami Magisos (she/her), WSAC Policy and Planning
- 09:05:34 From Dr. Christine Moloney to Everyone:  
Good morning! I'm Dr. Christine Moloney- Superintendent of Chehalis.
- 09:05:56 From Joe Wilcox to Everyone:  
Joe Wilcox, Workforce Training Board staff
- 09:05:59 From Becky Thompson, WSAC (she/her) to Everyone:  
Good Morning! Becky Thompson (she/her), WSAC staff.
- 09:06:00 From William Daley to Everyone:  
Bill Daley.
- 09:06:04 From Crystal Hall (she/her) to Everyone:  
Crystal Hall (she/her), WSAC staff
- 09:06:05 From Inez Olive (she/her) to Everyone:  
Good Morning, Inez Olive (she/her), WSAC Policy and Planning team
- 09:06:07 From Katie Tallman to Everyone:  
Katie Tallman (she/her), WSAC staff
- 09:06:08 From Rathi Sudhakara (she/her) | WSAC to Everyone:  
Good morning! Rathi Sudhakara (she/her), WSAC Policy and Planning
- 09:06:15 From Terri Standish-Kuon (she, her) | Independent Colleges of WA to Everyone:  
Hello! Terri Standish-Kuon (she/her), Independent Colleges of Washington and a Council member
- 09:06:19 From Abby Chien (she/her) to Everyone:  
Good Morning everyone! Abby Chien (she/her) WSAC Policy & Planning
- 09:06:28 From Lori Hunt to Everyone:  
Good morning Lori Hunt, Community Colleges of Spokane Provost
- 09:06:37 From Jamison Murphy to Everyone:  
Good morning. I am WSAC's new communications team member Jamison Murphy (he/him).
- 09:06:39 From William Daley to Everyone:  
Bill Daley Communities for Our Colleges
- 09:06:50 From David Mitchell to Everyone:  
David Mitchell (he/him), WSAC staff
- 09:06:53 From Brian Fox to Everyone:  
Brian Fox, supporting Chehalis School District
- 09:06:53 From Alexander Hall to Everyone:  
Hi! I'm Alex Hall, admissions counselor at UW Seattle
- 09:06:57 From James Mohr to Everyone:  
Good morning, Jim Mohr, Vice Provost Community Colleges of Spokane
- 09:07:02 From Rebecca Byrne to Everyone:  
Rebecca Byrne (she/her) WSAC Research staff.

- 09:07:14 From Isaac Kwakye to Everyone:  
Good morning! Isaac Kwakye, WSAC Staff
- 09:07:18 From Kara Larson to Everyone:  
Hi all - I'm Kara Larson in the Research division at WSAC.
- 09:07:25 From Sarah Weiss | WSAC | she, her to Everyone:  
Good morning, everyone! Sarah Weiss, WSAC Staff - College Access Initiatives, (she/her)
- 09:07:33 From Brian Richardson to Everyone:  
Good morning! Brian Richardson, WSAC Staff
- 09:07:51 From Sativah Jones to Everyone:  
Welcome Mustapha!
- 09:07:56 From Nova Gattman, Workforce Board to Everyone:  
Good morning! Nova Gattman with the state Workforce Board.
- 09:08:13 From Luke Minor (he/him) to Everyone:  
Good morning. Luke Minor, WSAC/WA529 staff.
- 09:09:08 From Crystal Hall (she/her) to Everyone:  
Meeting materials are located online here: <https://wsac.wa.gov/2022-meetings>
- 09:10:26 From Heather Hudson to Everyone:  
Welcome Mustapha- great to have you here!
- 09:10:55 From Crystal Hall (she/her) to Everyone:  
2022 Strategic Action Plan: <https://wsac.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-08-31-0141-Strategic-Action-Plan.pdf>
- 09:11:13 From Mustapha Samateh (He/Him) to Everyone:  
Thank you!!!
- 09:19:21 From Terri Standish-Kuon (she, her) | Independent Colleges of WA to Everyone:  
Congratulations, Heather!
- 09:20:21 From Crystal Hall (she/her) to Everyone:  
Good Jobs Challenge: <https://wsac.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-08-31-0142-Good-Jobs-Challenge.pdf>
- 09:26:36 From Crystal Hall (she/her) to Everyone:  
Regional Challenge Grants: <https://wsac.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-08-31-0200-RegionalChallengeGrants.pdf>
- 09:27:28 From Heather Hudson to Everyone:  
Just doubling down on the work that Abby and Rathi have done on RCG. Total rock stars!
- 09:28:00 From Abby Chien (she/her) to Everyone:  
It's an honor to steward the work forward! Amazing opportunity for our state!
- 09:28:02 From Ruben Flores to Everyone:  
Great work Abby and Rathi!!
- 09:28:45 From Rathi Sudhakara (she/her) | WSAC to Everyone:  
Thank you, all. It has been a wonderful journey of learning and good challenge all along!
- 09:51:47 From Michael Meotti | WSAC to Everyone:  
thanks so much for those comments, Sativah. You've rendered me speechless...a rare event!
- 10:00:06 From Juliet Schindler to Everyone:  
+1 to Ruben's comment about capturing successes and lessons learned and sharing those out so regions can learn from each other.
- 10:02:17 From Matthew Swenson to Everyone:  
The extent of community involvement was deeply appreciated. It would be helpful to know if/how Career Connect WA / Good Jobs Challenge-related funding and resources may be reflected in

planning and implementation applications to the Regional Challenge Grant program, given that they seem to be highly complementary. Any insight or guidance that could be provided from those directing these programs would be very useful!

10:03:19 From Paul Francis to Everyone:

Thank you to the WSAC team!

10:04:10 From Crystal Hall (she/her) to Everyone:

<https://wsac.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-08-31-0300-LegislativeProposals.pdf>

10:04:49 From Abby Chien (she/her) to Everyone:

Matthew - thank you for your comment. We will continue to be in touch about the opportunity for alignment in both grants.

10:11:03 From Terri Standish-Kuon (she, her) | Independent Colleges of WA to Everyone:

From national The Healthy Minds Network, important data about college student flourishing and mental health challenges: <https://healthymindsnetwork.org/research/data-point-of-the-month/>

10:12:56 From Ami Magisos to Everyone:

Thank you Terri!

10:13:09 From Terri Standish-Kuon (she, her) | Independent Colleges of WA to Everyone:

Terrific FAQs and whitepapers from this rigorous, longitudinal research:

<https://healthymindsnetwork.org/research/whitepapers-briefs/>

10:16:16 From Ami Magisos to Everyone:

Davon, thanks for that very important aspect of ensuring tech and internet access for Partner Institutions!

10:27:18 From Ami Magisos to Everyone:

Thank you Evangelina! I think our experience with the current Health Insurance Navigation Pilot where marketing materials are culturally competent / translated could be a great model for what you describe.

10:27:35 From Ruben Flores to Everyone:

Agreed!

10:32:18 From Ami Magisos to Everyone:

That's correct, Mike

10:42:02 From Nova Gattman, Workforce Board to Everyone:

Thank you for the callout of the Workforce Board's efforts, Paul. Here's a link to our behavioral health workforce page - we have a legislative report due in December.

<https://www.wtb.wa.gov/planning-programs/health-workforce-council/behavioral-health-group/>

10:42:29 From Ami Magisos to Everyone:

That's correct, Ruben. This is intended to test augmenting existing care, not to be a sole solution.

10:44:14 From Ami Magisos to Everyone:

States such as CT have system contracts for all institutions for telehealth contracts. CA does this as a master contract system.

10:44:37 From Terri Standish-Kuon (she, her) | Independent Colleges of WA to Everyone:

Thank you for raising the CT example, Ami. I was thinking the same.

10:46:19 From Ami Magisos to Everyone:

Thank you!

10:46:24 From Davon Thomas to Everyone:

Thank you Ami

11:01:06 From William Daley to Everyone:



Sorry. I have to ring off. Appreciate the chance to listen in on the meeting. Bill Daley.  
Communities for our colleges.

11:07:31 From Abby Chien (she/her) to Everyone:  
Thank you for that clarification, Evangelina!

11:11:49 From Crystal Hall (she/her) to Everyone:  
Equity in Education, Washington Profile: <https://wsac.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-08-31-0441-Equity.pdf>

11:15:58 From Michael Meotti | WSAC to Everyone:  
don't get nervous but it's Mike that

11:16:09 From Michael Meotti | WSAC to Everyone:  
is sharing the screen!

11:32:24 From Paul Francis to Everyone:  
SBCTC Strategic Plan - <https://www.sbctc.edu/about/agency/initiatives-projects/strategic-plan/default.aspx>

11:32:34 From Michael Meotti | WSAC to Everyone:  
Isaac is a master at collaboration with many partners....but the SBCTC, OSPI and EDRC are top in that group

11:37:35 From Crystal Hall (she/her) to Everyone:  
Thank you everyone for attending today!