

June 2, 2016
Tacoma Community College
Tacoma, Washington

MINUTES

Members attending:

Maud Daudon, Ray Lawton, Eric Pattison, Gil Mendoza, Jeff Charbonneau, and Susana Reyes.

Staff attending:

Gene Sharratt, Aaron Wyatt, Becky Thompson, Betsy Hagen, Betty Lochner, Cristina Gaeta, Crystal Hall, Karen Moton-Tate, Kristin Ritter, Lexi Shankster, Luke Minor, Maddy Thompson, Marc Webster, Marcie Sample, Noreen Light, Rachelle Sharpe, Randy Spaulding.

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. by Chair Maud Daudon.

Mary Chikwinya, Vice President for Student Services at Tacoma Community College (TCC), welcomed the Council to TCC. She explained that there are more than 13,000 students at TCC with opportunities to choose from 29 different associate degrees, 52 professional certification programs, and 72 programs of study.

Ms. Chikwinya stated that TCC is an education partner with Pacific Lutheran University, University of Puget Sound, the Evergreen State College, and University of Washington Tacoma. The partnership saves the student as much as half the cost of a four-year university. The student population is 60 percent female, nearly half the students qualify for financial aid, and over 45 percent of students are either Asian/Pacific Islander, African American, Hispanic, or Native American.

Ms. Chikwinya said the recent completion of the H.C. Joe Harned Center for Health Careers is among the latest changes to the facilities. The Center opened in the fall of 2014. TCC is currently enrolling a high number of graduates in the health care field, and many are retained in the community. Recently the physical education building and gymnasium was expanded, funded primarily by students. This PE building is known as the Health and Wellness Center. With the new facilities, TCC campus hopes to host its first ever commencement ceremony in the spring of 2017.

Gil Mendoza shared some fond TCC memories as a young person watching TCC move from a plot of ground to what it is today. He explained the Tacoma Community College campus is a campus for all students in this greater community.

Maud introduced Representatives Chris Reykdal, Noel Frame, Gerry Pollet, Gael Tarleton, and Hans Zeiger.

Consent Agenda and April Minutes

Motion approved and carried.

Executive Update

Gene Sharratt, Ph.D., Executive Director

Dr. Sharratt shared the latest work at the Washington Student Achievement Council in relation to outreach, advocacy, and programs, which included:

12th Year Campaign: The 12th Year Campaign has been redesigned to accommodate the timeline changes to the FAFSA for the 2017-18 academic year. Both admissions application and financial aid events (College Goal Washington) will launch in October and November.

GEAR UP: Washington GEAR UP hosted Year 6 planning workshops in Wenatchee during the last week of April.

College Bound: As of April 7, the statewide completed application sign-up average for this class is 70 percent (compared to 68 percent last year).

GET: Luke Minor, Associate Director for Marketing & Communications for the GET Program gave an update on the GET Program. The meeting on April 20, discussed the upcoming savings plan. The Washington State Investment Board made known they are not best positioned to provide management of the program. They will, however, provide consulting services. The Committee voted to allow the procurement process to commence. This work is in tandem with various stakeholders. A request for information (RFI) has been submitted before the formal request for proposal (RFP). They hope to be on track for July 1, 2017, opening and a reopening of the GET program.

Washboard: WSAC's scholarship portal has set a new high-water mark in terms of active dollars, with over \$53 million available. The Washboard provides scholarships to both undergraduate and graduate students. Typically 20 to 30 percent of the scholarships are open to both graduate and undergraduate students.

CBS Surveys: WSAC received the Gates Foundation grant to conduct a survey of current seniors and recent graduates who are eligible for the College Bound Scholarship but did not (or do not plan to) continue their education.

SWS Surveys: We are in the final stages of preparing surveys of institutions, employers, and students participating in the State Work Study program.

Dual Credit – Revised Rules: With a final draft of rules for College in the High School complete, WSAC joined OSPI and others to hold a public hearing for the revised rules on May 24.

STEM Education Innovation Alliance: The April 28 meeting of the STEM Education Innovation Alliance, held at the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, focused on policy issues and strategies in K-12 education, high school to college transitions, mid-level skills and credentials, and baccalaureate and graduate education. The next meeting is scheduled for July.

Dr. Sharratt asked Gil Mendoza to give an update on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Dr. Mendoza explained Washington is currently putting together a consolidated state plan to submit to the Department of Education which will guide our K-12 system. There are about fourteen work groups to create a plan that will keep the state system in line with the federal accountability system.

These groups hope to create a system that focuses on the concept of equity for all students in Washington State. This is a plan to provide every student with the resources that he or she needs to succeed. Federal law requires the statewide system be implemented in the 2017-18 school year.

Pave the Way is scheduled for November 1-2 this year at the Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center. This conference is about advancing equity, access, and support. Last year we had over 500 educators attend. Dr. Sharratt encouraged the Council members to attend.

Dr. Sharratt shared an article highlighting Washington State on Smarter Balanced Assessment.

Additionally, Dr. Sharratt commended Eric Pattison for the article in the May Puget Sound Business Journal. Eric was the keynote speaker at a Virginia Mason fundraising event on May 7 where they raised \$1.3 million, with 800 guests in attendance.

Finally, the WSAC agency clean audit results were shared, as well as announcements of several staff who have recently received awards.

Strategic Action Plan and Facilitated Group Discussion

Maddy Thompson, Director of Policy & Government Relations

Rachelle Sharpe, Deputy Director

Randy Spaulding, Director of Academic Affairs & Policy

Marc Webster, Senior Fiscal Policy Advisor

Maddy Thompson explained during today's meeting the Council and stakeholders will engage in discussion to explore the many strategies addressing the key challenges determined by the Council for this two-year budget cycle. At the August meeting, the

strategies will be prioritized in time for the policy and budget request to the Legislature in January.

Ms. Thompson reminded members of the core measures (high school completion, postsecondary enrollment, postsecondary completion, and participation and attainment) and the key indicators for success in each of these areas. These indicators show that there are challenges to many demographics. There has been a decline in enrollments among adults ages 25 and up, and thus not enough progress to reach our 2023 goals. More action must be taken.

Rachelle Sharpe went over the strategies for the Strategic Action Plan (SAP). Since the last meeting, staff continued to gather input from sector partners and carefully examine the strategies. It was determined that significant progress will demand attention to both secondary and postsecondary investments. The SAP will both highlight and endorse strategies that maintain and enhance high-quality programs and pathways and improve the academic experience for students at every level. It will focus on strategies that will have the greatest impact through coordinated state-level approaches, and every initiative should consider and target students that have been underserved and underrepresented throughout the educational pipeline. In particular, options should focus on serving students well during key transition points.

The work has been organized in three areas that are very connected. All of them are geared toward student success and completion. There are four strategies within student success that are broader and within the adult population and reengage former adult students on the pathway to completion. The final SAP Report will include an emphasis on maintaining funding for public institutions to adhere to Washington's tuition policy, to ensure strong available pathways to meet workforce needs, and institutions and agencies will put forward recommendations that are directly and indirectly supporting students throughout the educational system.

In addition to the four areas in student success, there were areas in adult reengagement and three areas in affordability and access explored. Each area was thoroughly discussed, one in each segment to be sure everyone is on the same page in terms of what is behind each of these recommendations and to address overarching questions.

Session 1: Adult Reengagement

Randy Spaulding introduced the first discussion for the workgroup: adult reengagement. He stated that to meet Washington's attainment goals there needs to be more than the existing pipeline of traditional students who go from high school to college. We need to engage adults and bring them back to the education system. Research has identified that there are 700,000 people of working age with some college and no credentials. Two thirds of that group have a year of college or more. Seventy percent of those earn less than a living wage and forty percent have student debt. This group would benefit greatly from reengaging. A number of individual schools have targeted this population

from their schools and have been somewhat successful; however, a statewide effort has not been made to date.

Session 2: Student Success

Rachelle Sharpe said that initiatives were reviewed in the K-12 system, including the need to expand counseling to support college aspirations, plan career explorations, address inequities in dual-credit options, focus on student transition areas, including bridge programs, multi-sector engagement of partners and communities, and approaches to postsecondary academic supports and retention services. Four areas have been identified to explore in more detail: information awareness, community and business engagement, institutional innovations, and bridge programs.

Session 3: Access and Affordability

Marc Webster explained that in order to meet the attainment goals, Washington needs substantially more low-income and underrepresented students moving into the system, and we have to make it affordable for them. Pathways need to be created for every family to see and know how to access. Many students do not know what the programs are that are available to them. Without this knowledge they may not finish. We need to prepare a state-level strategy to leverage what we already have.

Questions for each group to discuss.

- 1) If not constrained by resources, what innovations would this proposal include (best-case scenario)?
- 2) What elements of this proposal are essential for success?
- 3) How should this proposal use existing efforts or programs?

Council of Presidents, Washington Student Association Recognition, & Washington Student Achievement Council Present Resolutions

Maud Daudon, Chair Washington Student Achievement Council

David Postman, Chief of Staff to Governor Inslee

Eric Pattison, Washington Student Association

Cody Eccles, Associate Director, Council of Presidents

Julie Garver, Associate Director for Academic Policy, Council of Presidents

Ms. Daudon presented Resolution 16-03 to Eric Patterson on behalf of the Council for his year-long service as the student member on the Council.

Chief of Staff to the Governor, **David Postman**, gave some remarks on behalf of Governor Inslee and read a letter from the Governor to Dr. Sharratt.

Eric Pattison presented Resolution 16-01 to Dr. Sharratt on behalf of the Washington Student Association.

Ms. Daudon presented Dr. Sharratt with Resolution 16-01 on behalf of the Washington Student Achievement Council for his exceptional work on behalf of the students of Washington State.

Numerous individuals shared memories and presented tributes to Dr. Sharratt.

Chair Maud Daudon adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.