

Ohio Chief Academic Officers
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 8, 2005
Ohio Board of Regents
Main Conference Room
Columbus, Ohio

Attendance:

Becki Kurtz, Belmont Technical College
Samuel Saliba, Central Ohio Technical College
Andy Runyan, Clark State Community College
Michael Snider, Columbus State Community College
Judy Maxson, Hocking College
James Baber, Jefferson Community College
Fred Law, Lakeland Community College
Karen Wells, Lorain County Community College
Dennis Budkowski, Marion Technical College
Therese Bushner, North Central State College
Tom Stuckey, Northwest State Community College
Paul Unger, Owens Community College
Bob Casto, James A. Rhodes State College
Frank DePalma, Sinclair Community College
Sherry Stout, Southern State Community College
Kathy McCabe, Terra Community College
Mark Nutter, Washington State Community College
Robin Menschenfreund, Zane State College

Guests: Joe Bodine, Kate Clifford, Julie Miceli and Cheryl Hacker of the Ohio Attorney General's Office; Terry Thomas of the Ohio Association of Community Colleges; Kate Carey of the Ohio Learning Network

The Attorney General's office will be presenting a policy workshop. The AG's office will select 2 policies that seem problematic at our institutions and conduct the workshop around those policies. Institutions will send teams of staff including Student Affairs representatives. This will be scheduled for April (Note: we have since received notice the date is April 20, 2006). The goal of the session will be to allow institutions to develop new policies in those areas and to provide a guideline for policy development.

Additional updates were provided from the Attorney General's office on the following areas:

1. Surveys of students for research purposes and FERPA issues
2. Emergency Medical Services Testing Agreement
3. Sex offenders on campus

Kate Carey of the Ohio Learning Network provided a draft of their annual report titled "Bounded Exuberance: E-Learning in Ohio. They would like to see colleges increase participation in the OLN catalog. The group discussed reports of transfer institutions rejecting on-line labs and implications to the transfer module.

Statistics of OLN's e4me courses were provided showing that between September 1, 2004 and December 1, 2005, a total of 2,085 students enrolled, 1,236 began the course and 23% of those completed. The information reported e-partnerships with six high schools or technology access programs.

Terry Thomas of the Ohio Association of Community Colleges (OACC) provided an update including a discussion of higher education funding issues. He anticipates the SSI consultation will result in major policy changes and they are monitoring the activities of that consultation closely. The trend to shift from funding enrollment to funding completion is one of the major considerations.

Terry discussed the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program areas and the new emphasis being placed on their importance to Ohio's economy. Colleges were encouraged to create stair steps to these academic pathways.

OACC's "Action Agenda to maximize Ohio's Use of It's Community Colleges" was distributed. OACC is concerned about potential loss of funds for the technical colleges and is proposing a formula that would allow funding to become more uniform.

CAO Business Meeting

1. The business meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becki Kurtz.
2. Approval of the Minutes: James Baber moved for approval of the minutes of the November 2005 meeting. Fred Law seconded. The motion carried.
3. Phil Lootens had submitted a written treasurer's report which was presented by Kathy McCabe showing a December 7, 2005 balance of \$6,339.69. The report indicates that dues have been collected from all 23 member institutions.
4. Mike Snider was congratulated on his upcoming retirement from Columbus State Community College. The group expressed their appreciation of his service and support for our organization and its members.
5. Discussion on the second session of the Chair Academy Leadership Conference was tabled until the next meeting.
6. The new Regent's requirements for the transfer of D grades was discussed by Mike Snider who participates in the activities of the Transfer Council. The main goal of the policy is that transfer students should be treated equitably

with native students. Mike encouraged the group to err on the side of compassion to the students.

Mike suggested that colleges should not change policies now but to wait on results from the study group that is currently in place.

7. Other items Mike reported from the Transfer and Articulation Council indicated the CAO's would be getting calls from the Regents on the results of the review of their TAG course submissions. It was indicated those calls would be followed up by emails. The Regents are establishing a Center for Course Development to assist schools with getting their courses in line with the TAG requirements. Modifications to courses to make them compliant will likely have to go back to the faculty committees.
8. February's meeting will be a combined meeting with the Student Services Officers at Columbus State Community College. The 1:00 session will consist of an HEI Bootcamp conducted by Andy Runyan. There will be no separate business meeting of the Chief Academic Officers in February. Because there will be no business meeting, items of information from the state committees should be forwarded to Fred in February for posting on the Website.
9. Dennis Budkowski provided a handout on House Bill 66. Dennis has been asked by the HB66 Mandates Subcommittee to provide a draft of criteria by which certificates and certifications might be considered for performance based funding. The group reviewed the draft response and provided input to the recommended criteria. Institutions are asked to complete the matrix of certificates and certifications that was sent by Dennis to each of the CAO's.
10. Mike Snider, Fred Law, and Paul Unger are participating in the Higher Education Accountability group. Activities include finding ways to demonstrate that schools are:
 - Accomplishing what they say they are doing
 - Demonstrating learning gains
 - Addressing diversity in cutoff scores for placement in minimal competency areas (versus advanced competencies)

They indicated discussions are very philosophical at this point but that there is a meeting on K-16 articulation upcoming that will be looking at placement test cutoff scores. Pilot projects are being conducted using an eportfolio. Rubrics are being developed for common competency areas. They see the real benefit of the group's activity at this point as the coming together of the faculty from our institutions and the universities to work together. Faculty are looking at freshman and sophomore work at the universities. There will be a June faculty meeting scheduled by this group.

11. Fred Law provided a document he has drafted on the STEM programs at our colleges. Colleges were asked to continue to send information on their STEM programs to Fred including any outreach programs in those areas. Advanced manufacturing programs may be included in that information and it has been suggested that health programs should also be included due to their science-based curriculum.
12. Robin Menschenfreund provided feedback from the group on the proposed mentoring program.

13. It was suggested that John Gardner's work on the first year experience would be good information for the entire group and that he might be a good speaker for our retreat next year. Paul Unger and Robin Menschenfreund will be exploring that possibility.