

Ohio Chief Academic Officers
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 9, 2006
Ohio Board of Regents 35th Floor.
Columbus, Ohio

Attendance:

Becki Kurtz, Belmont Technical College
Michelle Stapleton, Central Ohio Technical College
Andy Runyan, Clark State Community College
Linda Simmons, Cuyahoga Community College
Phil Lootens, Edison Community College
Judy Maxson, Hocking College
James Baber, Jefferson Community College
Fred Law, Lakeland Community College
Robert Beckstrom, Lorain County Community College
Dennis Budkowski, Marion Technical College
Tom Stuckey, Northwest State Community College
Bruce Busby, Owens Community College
Barbara Hatfield, Rio Grande Community College
Tom Hughley, Sinclair Community College
Sherry Stout, Southern State Community College
Lawrence Cox, Stark State College of Technology
Kathy McCabe, Terra Community College
Mark Nutter, Washington State Community College
Robin Menschenfreund, Zane State College

Guests: Joe Bodine, Kate Clifford, Rebecca Albers and Paul Burnhart of the Ohio Attorney General's Office; Paula Compton of the Ohio Board of Regents; and Kate Carey of the Ohio Learning Network.

The Attorney General's staff announced that Kate Clifford will be leaving March 17th and Joe Bodine will be leaving in June. Rebecca Albers will be taking over the Senior Deputy position.

The Attorney General's policy workshop is scheduled for Thursday April 20th at Memorial Hall on Broad Street in Columbus. The focus will be on the development of a code of student conduct, due process, and academic integrity policies. Homework for the session will be sent prior to the meeting by email.

The Attorney General's staff discussed:

- Student reference requests and FERPA requirements
- Cybersecurity and the use of students for network integrity tests
- Subpoenas for release of student information

The group discussed processes and policies for Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) students. Practices varied with some colleges contracting with schools for high school faculty (often also college adjunct faculty) time to teach classes in the high schools. Other institutions will not teach in the high schools and object to such agreements as means for discounting tuition. The whitepaper developed by our group has been adopted by the Ohio Association of Community Colleges and is being used in discussions with the Legislature. The group was provided with a document from the Inter-University Council showing that many of the State's four-year institutions are also offering credit courses on high school campuses for college credit. The Legislature is likely moving to revise standards for PSEO offerings.

Paula Compton provided an update on the Articulation and Transfer initiative at the Regents. She requested that we provide her any needs or questions we may have related to the process. When asked about the possibility of resubmitting courses that had been rejected, we were instructed to review the information to be provided in the upcoming Webinar on those submissions and then to resubmit courses using those guidelines. The group also expressed concern that four-year institutions were developing new courses outside their majors that will serve as equivalent to our courses. That violates the intent of courses being able to transfer within a major. The group also has learned that some of the discipline areas are not consistently applying the rule that required 70% of the competencies for a given course be met for equivalency. Some groups are requiring 100% equivalency which is outside parameters previously agreed upon.

Kate Carey from the Ohio Learning Network provided an update on activities of that group. Regional centers have been appointed across the state in an attempt for the OLN to make focused investments in the area of distance learning. Upcoming grants will likely mandate specific activities versus soliciting ideas from individual institutions. Each center is supposed to work with all schools in their region.

Kate indicated that a taskforce is being created on the "Regents degree". That degree would be geared toward working adults and use distance learning resources from across the State to allow them to complete a degree much more quickly.

CAO Business Meeting

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becki Kurtz.
2. Minutes of the meetings from December 8, 2005 and February 9, 2006 were reviewed and approved.
3. Phil Lootens provided a treasurer's report dated February 28, 2006 showing a balance of \$5,200.31.
4. Robin Menschenfreund discussed the retreat for 2006. It was suggested to be held during the first or third weeks in November. Mark Nutter agreed

- to host the retreat at Washington State in Marietta and the group agreed. Robin will work to confirm a final date.
5. The group was reminded that our April meeting will be replaced by a legal symposium on April 20th hosted by the Attorney General's office.
 6. The nominating committee consists of Bob Casto and Fred Law. They will have nominations prepared for the May meeting.
 7. Becki Kurtz provided an update on the House Bill 66 state committee on secondary to college transition. Becki and Paul Unger are on that group. Their emphasis has been on the development of career pathways and they have been focusing on Nursing and Engineering Technologies. Their deadline for completion is April 2007. The group is concerned with maintaining educational soundness and there is concern that the Vocational Schools may use the process to attempt to gain a share of the college's institutional subsidy. Bob Casto reminded the group of a paper we had previously developed on "Who should grant credit and why". That will be posted on the CAO Website.
 8. Fred Law and Dennis Budkowski serve on a state committee dealing with secondary to college articulation. Much of the Governor's proposal on the "Ohio Core" for high school students has come from this group. The committee has been working on aligning content for English and mathematics between the high school and college programs. Two faculty subcommittees have developed content for first level college courses in each of these areas. The goal is to align these with the high school content and develop 12th grade standards for the high schools. The placement test survey of institutions showed a wide range of scores for initial placement into college classes. The challenge is how to reduce that range. The group is considering an executive subcommittee to work up recommendations by this summer.
 9. Dennis Budkowski reviewed the activity on the revisions to the State Share of Instruction (SSI). The distribution of SSI is being reviewed to improve administrative and operating efficiency. It was commented that we feel we are already demonstrating efficiency in that the formula is currently under-funded. There seems to be the perception in the legislature that colleges are "administratively fat" but the recommendation of the committee is that the system is efficient for the most part.

There is a component of the SSI that will be based on the number of degrees and certificates awarded. That will likely include a link to STEM² programs. The committee is recommending that this component be new funding and not part of the existing SSI. This may result in performance grants for two-year institutions providing incentives for certificate and degree completion. Funding may be weighted by student risk factors such as low income, first generation students, low achieving, or others. Dennis anticipates that our inventory of certificates is gaining acceptance and funding for those would likely be included in such performance incentives.

The new models for distribution of the SSI have been released and the most recent models have shown Community and Technical College funding improving over those models previous released.

Ability to benefit students are also part of this discussion. There is concern that legislators hope to “weed out” these students that we have been serving. It is expected that this topic will continue to come up in the committee.

10. Fred Law, Bob Casto, Paul Unger, and Mike Snider have been part of the Higher Education Accountability taskforce that is chaired by the Chancellor. The benefits of a student success plan have been discussed by the group and there is discussion of having every institution develop such plans. A letter is anticipated from the Chancellor inviting CAO's and a guest to a summit in June on this issue
11. The second session of the Ohio Chair Academy will be conducted at Owens from July 23rd through July 28th. Participants have been informed. There are no plans to begin another session of the Academy at this point.