

The Ohio Council of Chief Academic Officers of Two-Year Colleges

Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2008

CAOs Present: Kay Adkins (Columbus State Community College), Jim Baber (Jefferson Community College), Mike Bodnar (for Peter Kropp, Stark State College), Dennis Budkowski (Marion Technical College), Therese Bushner (North Central Community College), Linda Carr (Northwest State Community College), David Devier (Clark State Community College), Dorey Diab (Rhodes State College), Barbara Hatfield (Rio Grande Community College), Becki Kurtz (Belmont Technical College), Fred Law (Lakeland Community College), Judy Maxson (Hocking College), Ryan McCall (Southern State Community College), Mindy McNutt (Edison Community College), Robin Menschenfreund (Zane State College), Mark Nutter (Washington State Community College), Richard Prystowsky (Central Ohio Technical College), Karen Wells (Lorain County Community College)

Guests:

Information Sharing

University System of Ohio Update

Gary (question on last name), Ohio Board of Regents, discussed the Seniors to Sophomores initiative that would offer seniors the opportunity to leave high school and spend their senior year at a state college. K-12 and Higher Education are uncertain of the ongoing funding for this initiative. To date there are 29 applications. 11 from Stark County Community College and the Kent branch. \$5.1 Million is available in the overall budget for secondary to post-secondary students. A majority of applicants to date are from the western or eastern side of the state, including Toledo.

The plan is to use the university system web site to provide for Q&A.

Some questions were raised as to where the student must take the courses. It is the Chancellor intent to have as many qualified students as possible involved.

The question of weight on courses was raised—"dual" enrollment criteria may help determine this question. In summary, the following was asked:

How can it be delivered?

Where can the courses be delivered?

Will there be an opportunity to revise submitted proposals?

What is the number of hours required?

How will the courses be weighted?

Gary (last name?) will work to provide more information.

Articulation and Transfer Clearing House Implementation

Paula Compton thanked everyone for their efforts and wished she could applaud the entire faculty who has been involved. The deadline for institutions to submit TAG courses is May 1, 2008 and the goal is to reach full compliance by June 2, 2008. A schedule will be established to have TAGs reviewed electronically.

There have been issues with health courses since some institutions were submitting numerous credit packages. Barry Gowin is working individually with schools to discuss and resolve this as quickly as possible.

The course equivalency management system is currently being built and training will take place this spring. The new system will likely to be reviewed annually. A state wide catalog for all TAG courses will be available to enhance credit mobility. Ultimately it will include the Transfer Module and the career schools-CT2. Training delivered by industry is ultimately also expected to receive credit. Paula and Jon

noted that it is best to have a “relevant” general education curriculum. The Chancellor has made a 30 mile guarantee and the 2+2 degrees continue to be part of the equation.

The Transfer Module has guidelines and the courses will not automatically be slated as “TAG” courses. English will be reviewed as a Transfer Module course with specific learning outcomes and not as a TAG course. Paula provided the list of the five validation centers to date. Validation center coordinators have been hired and career center and higher education campus’ faculty will be trained April 9 and 14.

The assessment of learning is another critical issue; a qualitative report for TAGS is underway to determine the ease of transfer. Darryl Glenn is also looking at persistence. OSU will study how well transfer students do and OBR will also need to put a similar plan in place for CT2. Institutions are anxious about the impact of so many new initiatives in the state.

Questions were asked regarding “stackable” certificates eliminating developmental education at the college level and whether ABLE can assist. Facilitation of “transparent” pathways will be critical.

Attorney General’s Update

Cheryl Hacker discussed Gilles v. Hodge, the free speech case pending in the 6th circuit. She will watch this carefully so to provide guidance on restrictions on our campuses.

The traditional forum is restricted to a time, place, and manner for outside speech. A limited forum deals with government grounds and people will have access but the institution will determine how restricted an area will be.

Establishing a policy is critical. There will be a review of the student code of conduct to determine if it would include issues with MySpace. OSU’s policy reads “...cause serious harm to the health or safety of members of the university community...” endangering health and safety sexual conduct, etc. We should review our codes of conduct to determine if it will readily apply to “off campus” and if cyberspace will be considered as it or if it will be a separate “place.”

OACC Committee of Appropriate Measures of Community College Learning

Fred Law reported on the Strategic Plan Planning committee for higher education accountability. They are looking for transparency in assessment. Milt Heckle was asked to present to IUC Presidents for discussion. The Chancellor has requested a standard test called the VSA—voluntary system of accountability. The Chancellor likes the VAS concept. IUC has formed a task force and drafted a position paper. The paper will provide options like CAAP, MAAP or CLA. Other measures to include are portfolios, interviews, etc. Ron Abrams suggested the CAO group should present to two-year presidents with recommendation similar to what IUC provosts presented.

Presently, CAAP is used by five institutions and there may be more. Concern for mandated testing was noted.

Fred Law, Karen Wells, Denis Budkowski, Becki Kurtz, Paul Unger, and Helen Grove will work on a report.

Treasurer’s Report

Kay reported that we have \$1,657 – less encumbered expense from last lunch. She also noted that we now have one bank account—thanks Kay!

The AA/AS degree will be offered at technical colleges. Jane Fullerton is preparing a document for the web. Chancellor said he would approve a letter of support

HLC contacted Jane Fullerton regarding a change in mission for Ohio’s technical colleges. She is hopeful a brief report to HLC will answer questions and site visits can be avoided.

At the May meeting, a slate of officers will be presented. Dorey Diab has agreed to the nomination for Chair, Kay Adkins has agreed to serve as Treasurer. Offices to fill include the Vice Chair and Secretary

Becki Kurtz and Robin Menschenfreund have agreed to serve on the nominating committee.

There being no further business, Chair Mark Nutter adjourned the Council.

Submitted by

Linda Carr