



STUDY SESSION AGENDA ITEM

TAB 1

October 22, 2008

Topic

Community and Technical College Mission Study

Description

The Board is undertaking an examination of how well the community and technical college system is serving the people of Washington State. Based on the Board's positive response to the study proposal, staff has proceeded with assembling a system task force to advise the study and provide findings and recommendations to the Board. The purpose of this agenda item is to review and discuss the study outline (Attachment A) and for the Board to give guidance to the staff and task force as it carries out its work.

Key Questions

- What questions does the Board wish to examine through the study?

Analysis

At the September meeting staff discussed a proposed approach to a community and technical college mission study. There continue to be unmet needs for community and technical college programs around the state.

- Only one-sixth of adults with basic skills needs are being served by the college system.
- The college system provides three-fourths of new technically trained workers for employers in the state, but analysis shows that 77% of the need is being met, with substantial statewide gaps in health care, construction, transportation, auto and aircraft mechanics, installation/maintenance/repair, accounting, early childhood education, science and technology and apprenticeship fields.
- Low income people attend community and technical colleges at a lower rate than people from middle and higher income families.

In addition, a number of new roles have emerged for community and technical colleges in Washington state.

- Colleges are hosting upper division bachelor's degree programs on their campuses and the state has been building new facilities to house these 2+2 degree programs.
- The state has appropriated funds to the Board for colleges to contract with universities for upper division bachelor's degree programs.
- Seven community and technical colleges have been funded by the legislature and authorized by the Board to offer applied bachelors degrees.
The Board approved mission expansion for technical colleges, leading to a legislative proposal to add professional transfer degree authority to technical colleges.

There was also a presentation from Bellevue Community College about a potential new role for community and technical colleges, a hybrid model for increasing bachelors degree capacity in the state while maintaining a community college mission. In addition, Ann Daley from the

Higher Education Coordinating Board proposed a joint study between the State Board, Council of Presidents and Higher Education Coordinating Board to undertake a comprehensive review of the state's higher education delivery system and the Board indicated willingness to engage in this joint work.

Background Information

Attachment A: Community and Technical College System Mission Study Draft Work Plan and Timeline

Outcomes

Board members will have an opportunity to discuss the study design and provide guidance to staff.

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Community and Technical College System Mission Study

Draft Work Plan
October, 2008

Goal

The purpose of this study is to:

- Understand how well the community and technical college system is serving the people of Washington State in all three mission areas: academic transfer, workforce education and basic skills
- Draw conclusions about unmet needs in regions of the state or mission areas
- Draw conclusions about the role of community and technical colleges in bachelor's degree access, including expansion of community and technical college applied bachelor's degrees
- Make recommendations about meeting identified needs

Elements of analysis

Current and projected need:

- College attainment by region and county, age, race, income and mission area for Washington state adults
- Community and technical college participation by region and county, age, race, income and mission area
- Projected demand based on population forecasts to 2028.

Mission area needs:

- Implications of current and projected needs for growth in academic transfer, workforce education and basic skills
- Need for upper division capacity and applied bachelor's degrees by region

Access issues:

- Transportation and location analysis
- Projected access zones for current college locations
- Role of eLearning

Process

Create system task force that includes State Board members, trustees, presidents, faculty and State Board staff

Coordinate efforts with the Higher Education Coordinating Board, Council of Presidents and Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board

Timeline

<i>September 2008</i>	<i>Review study proposal with State Board, college system representatives</i>
<i>October 22-23</i>	<i>State Board meeting</i>
November	Convene system task force: review study design, discuss college participation and projected demand
November 6-7	WACTC Meeting
November 14	TACTC Board of Directors meeting
<i>December 3-4</i>	<i>State Board meeting</i>
December 11-12	WACTC meeting
January 2009	Task force meeting: discuss mission needs analysis
January 27-28	WACTC meeting
January 25-27	TACTC conference
<i>February 4-5</i>	<i>State Board meeting</i>
February 25-27	WACTC meeting
March	Task force meeting: discuss transportation and location analysis
March 25-27	WACTC meeting
<i>April 1-2</i>	<i>State Board meeting</i>
April	Task force meeting: discuss findings, conclusions and options
April 30-May 1	WACTC meeting
<i>May 6-7</i>	<i>State Board meeting</i>
May	Task force meeting: discuss recommendations
May 14-16	TACTC conference
May 28-29	WACTC meeting
<i>June 10-11</i>	<i>State Board meeting</i>