

Washington Association of Community and Technical Colleges

Board of Presidents

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Friday, April 25, 2025

8:30 P.M. – Noon  
South Puget Sound Community College – Lacey Campus

## Members Present

Lin Zhou, Bates

David May, Bellevue

Jim Lemerond, Bellingham

Sara Thompson Tweedy, Big Bend  
Eric Murray, Cascadia

Bob Mohrbacher, Centralia

Karin Edwards, Clark

Joyce Loveday, Clover Park

Amit Singh, Edmonds

Chemene Crawford, Everett

Carli Schiffner, Grays Harbor

John Mosby, Highline

Amy Morrison, Lake Washington

Matt Seimears, Lower Columbia

Rachel Solemsaas, North Seattle

Marty Cavalluzzi, Olympic

Carrie Edmiston for Suzy Ames, Peninsula

Julie White, Pierce District

Matt Campbell, Pierce, Steilacoom

Chio Flores, Pierce Puyallup

Doris Martinez for Yoshiko Harden, Renton

Rosie Rimando-Chareunsap, Seattle District

Chantae Recasner, Seattle Central

Jack Kahn, Shoreline

Chris Villa, Skagit

Tim Stokes, South Puget Sound

Monica Brown, South Seattle

Kevin Brockbank, Spokane District

Jenni Martin, Spokane

Kimberly Messina, Spokane Falls

Ivan Harrell, Tacoma

Chad Hickox, Walla Walla

Faimous Harrison, Wenatchee Valley

Nate Langstraat, Whatcom

Teresa Rich, Yakima Valley

## Ex-Officio Members — SBCTC

Chris Bailey, interim executive director

Grant Rodeheaver, information technology

Joyce Hammer, education

Choi Halliday, business operations

## Guests and SBCTC Staff

Arlen Harris, SBCTC

Bertha Ortega, ACT

Darrell Jennings, SBCTC

Ha Nguyen, SBCTC

Jamie Traugott, SBCTC

Jason Hetterle, Wenatchee Valley College

Julie Huss, SBCTC

Katie Rose, SBCTC  
Kim Tanaka, SBCTC

Lia Homeister, Renton Technical College

MarcusAntonio Gunn, SBCTC

Marie Bruin, SBCTC

Martin Valadez, State Board

Maya Esquivido, SBCTC

Michael Brown, SBCTC

Monica Wilson, SBCTC

Nanette Angel, SBCTC

Sam Herriot, SBCTC

Stephanie Winner, SBCTC  
Summer Kenneson, SBCTC

Will Durden, SBCTC

## Call to Order and Welcome Amy Morrison, President of the Washington Association of Community and Technical Colleges (WACTC), convened the meeting at 8:30 a.m., welcomed the attending presidents, and provided a brief overview of the agenda.

## Approval of Minutes

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded to approve Mar. 28, 2025; minutes as presented with one amendment to update the Executive Committee report to read: Nomination for election is open for the WACTC chair elect.

**MOTION PASSED.**

## Treasurer’s Report — Joyce Loveday, WACTC president- elect

## Joyce Loveday presented the current financial summary, as outlined in the WACTC meeting packet, noting a carry-forward balance of $50,711.52.

## She acknowledged the recent contributions of $12,500 each to FSOCC and SOCC, which are now reflected in the balance. She expressed gratitude to the colleges that have submitted their dues and requested that all members review the report. Institutions not yet listed as paid are encouraged to submit their payments promptly.

## Executive Committee Report — Amy Morrison, WACTC president

* Update on executive director’s search: projected start date July 1.
* NW Commissions email – discussed executive order.
* Ivan Harrell provided an update on AACC leadership, noting the search for a new CEO is currently underway. He invited members to reach out directly with any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the process.

## Chair Elect Vote for 2025–2026 - Julie White & Tim Stokes

Bob Mohrbacher was nominated for Chair Elect. As no additional nominations were submitted, the nomination proceeded unopposed.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded to confirm Bob Mohrbacher as the WACTC Chair Elect for the 2025-26 term.

**MOTION PASSED.**

## State Board Report — Chris Bailey

* Chris Bailey met with statewide Workforce directors.
* Discussion on Running Start FTEs and competency-based education.
* Winter enrollment reports were discussed, showing a 9% increase from last year.
* Update on the Washington Roundtable and concerns about the performance-based model for funding.

## Technology Committee — Kevin Brockbank

* Discussed community vision and process alignment updates.
* Noted training gaps and system setup issues across colleges.
* Financial aid business process updates and the importance of common processes.
* Encouraged presidents to connect with financial aid directors.

## Operating Budget Committee — Carli Schiffner

* Proposed an additional meeting to discuss the state budget with CFO participation: Friday, May 2, 2025, at 2 p.m.
* Allocation model review: semi-final recommendations issued; feedback due May 5, 2025.
* Emphasis on clarity between “semi-final” and “final” recommendations.
* Implementation timeline will be discussed at the July retreat.

## Legislative & Public Information Committee Report — Chemene Crawford

* Encouraged reviewing the proposed budget and preparing questions ahead of the upcoming Friday meeting.

Capital Budget Committee — Chio Flores

* Minor works allocation expenditure at 58%.
* Discussed need for better tracking and faster spending.
* Clarified confusion over timeline for introducing intermediate projects.

Equity Committee Report - Faimous Harrison

* Emphasized advancing equity work and supporting students.
* Called for sustained momentum regardless of political changes.

DEOC Update - Iesha Valencia - Associate Vice President for Equity Diversity, and Inclusion; Clover Park Technical College

* Update on coordination and priorities of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion efforts.
* A call to action was issued: regardless of national politics or leadership changes, the commitment to equity must remain strong and unwavering. The DEOC urged presidents to stay engaged, reinforce support on their campuses, and maintain alignment with the long-term goals of systemic equity transformation.

## Educational Services Committee — Jenni Martin

* Highlighted work on Guided Pathways accountability and a system-wide one-pager.
* Announced formation of a non-credit/credit alignment task force.
* Encouraged in-person commission meeting attendance.

RFP for Systemwide CRM Vendor - Matt Campbell and Sara Thompson Tweedy

Background:

* The RFP (Request for Proposal) process has been ongoing for 18 months.
* Communication about the Apparent Successful Vendor (ASV) was sent via email a few weeks ago.
* WACTC-Tech needs to formally recommend the ASV to move into negotiations.

Current Status:

* The ASV is ConexED.
* 188 variables were evaluated across five areas:
  + Technology integration
  + Cost
  + Case management
  + Communication
  + Accessibility (currently wrapping up pressure testing)
* There was an initial misunderstanding among some colleges regarding whether they had to switch vendors; they do not. Colleges can:
  + Stick with their current vendor (e.g., Navigate by EAB)
  + Switch to the new vendor (ConexED) to benefit from two-way ctcLink integration.
* Colleges that don't switch:
  + Will not pay for ConexED.
  + Will continue using their own tools without two-way real-time ctcLink data writing.

Key Discussion Points:

* About 20 colleges are using Navigate; around 11–15 have fully implemented it.
* Past decisions and timing of the RFP process (during Guided Pathways implementation) caused some frustration.
* No one is required to move to ConexED, but the benefits (two-way integration, support) are important considerations.

Next Steps:

* After WACTC confirms the recommendation, negotiations with ConexED will begin.
  + Key negotiation topics:
    1. Cost: Major concern; may reject if costs are too high.
    2. Capacity & timeline: How many colleges can onboard and how fast?
    3. Accessibility fixes: Confirm final compliance if any issues emerge.
    4. Technical integration needs: Tighten technical requirements for ctcLink integration.
* Communications:
  + Two main communications went out:
    1. An email sharing that ConexED was the ASV.
    2. A one-pager shared at the March WACTC-Tech meeting, summarizing process and next steps.
* Process Transparency:
  + Full scoring documentation is available for any formal appeals.
* Critical Clarifications:
  + Each college will have its own ConexED instance.
  + State Board's main role: facilitate integration through a “broker” for two-way data flow to/from CtcLink.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded with three abstentions to finalize the RFP process and move forward with the next phase (negotiations).

**MOTION PASSED.**

## Trustees Report – Bertha Ortega

Emphasized the ongoing engagement of trustees across the system and their commitment to supporting the strategic goals of Washington’s community and technical colleges. Key points included:

* Trustees are closely monitoring state legislative developments and the implications of the proposed budgets on institutional funding and capital projects.
* Reinforced the importance of collaborative governance and urged continued communication between college presidents and their boards of trustees to maintain alignment on strategic priorities.
* Concluded by reiterating the trustees' support for presidential leadership and shared system initiatives, noting that active trustee involvement will remain a cornerstone of systemwide progress.

Adjournment

With no further business, the April 25, 2025, Board of Presidents’ regular meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. The next business meeting will be held May 30, 2025, at the Shoreline Community College campus.

Minutes prepared by Nanette Angel