

COMMUNITY COLLEGE COUNCIL (CCC) MEETING NOTES

Thursday, March 22, 2012 – 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. -- ICN

Those in attendance included:

- ❑ Barbara Crittenden, President, Southwestern Community College; and CCC Member
- ❑ MJ Dolan, Executive Director, Iowa Association of Community College Trustees,
- ❑ Colleen Hunt, Chief, Bureau of Adult, Career, and Community College Education
- ❑ Rosie Hussey, CCC and State Board of Education Member (via conference call)
- ❑ Moudy Nabulsi, Community College Trustee, Southeastern Community College, and CCC Member (via conference call)
- ❑ Max Phillips, CCC Chair and State Board of Education Member
- ❑ Roger Utman, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges
- ❑ Jeremy Varner, Education Consultant, Bureau of Adult, Career, and Community College Education (via conference call)
- ❑ Stephanie Weeks, Assistant to Roger Utman, Division of Community Colleges
- ❑ LaMetta Wynn, CCC and State Board of Education Member

I. Welcome and Introductions—Max Phillips, CCC Chair

Chair Max Phillips called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Members and presenters introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes—Max Phillips

The January 23, 2012, minutes were unanimously approved by the CCC.

III. Division Updates—Roger Utman, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges

- Dustin Kilpack, who is currently a graduate student at Texas Tech, will serve as an intern at the Department of Education mid-May through mid-July. There are several projects he will be working on that relate to the division and to the community colleges.
- We are in the process of filling Tom Schenk's position. We have received several applications, but have not interviewed yet. Interviews will be conducted the first week of April.
- Update on Community College Distance Education Registration: On May 11, 2011, the State Board of Education approved and supported the registration application of Iowa's 15 community colleges with the state of Minnesota by signing an application. The completion of the application process met the required registration of Iowa's 15 community colleges with the state of Minnesota. Due to a proposed United States Department of Education (USDE) rule, postsecondary institutions which offer on-line courses to residents in other states must be registered in those states with the appropriate state

agency in charge of such registration. While the USDE rule may be postponed from its original effective date of July 1, 2011, most states already have such requirement of out-of-state institutions. The state of Minnesota has agreed to allow Iowa's 15 community colleges to apply as a single entity. The DE and the Community College Distance Education Coordinators completed the application and provided the necessary required materials to Minnesota. The costs associated with the application will be paid by Iowa's 15 community colleges.

The DE has addressed all the questions the state of Minnesota had and they sent to the DE the amount of the fee for all of Iowa's 15 community colleges which is \$2,750. The Iowa Association of Community College Presidents approved paying the fee and they voted to split the cost equally among all 15 community colleges. We are pleased the Minnesota application will be completed.

- The Annual Condition of Iowa's Community Colleges 2011 has been posted to the DE website and printed copies are now available and have been distributed to the community college presidents and to the community college trustees. The link to the electronic version of the report is as follows:

http://educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1663&catid=183&Itemid=2471

- Senior Year Plus (SYP) Communications Committee: The first meeting of the SYP Communications Committee met on Monday, February 20, 2012, at the Department of Education. Membership includes the following:
 - Gerry Beeler, Principal, Mid-Prairie High School
 - Debra Derr, President, North Iowa Area Community College
 - Jim Hendrick, Principal, West Marshall High School
 - Monica Hinkle, Director of High School Relations, Teaching and Learning, Southeastern Community College
 - Ed Klamfoth, Superintendent, Edgewood-Colesburg Community School District
 - Gary McClanahan, Principal, Des Moines Central Academy
 - Susan Meade, Curriculum Director, Ankeny Community School District
 - Todd Prusha, Dean, Distance Learning and Secondary Programs, Kirkwood Community College
 - Ron Serpliss, Chief Academic Officer, Eastern Iowa Community College District
 - Karen Swanson, Coordinator, High School Programs, Indian Hills Community College
 - James Vanderloo, Principal, Sioux City West High
 - Alan Vasher, Principal, Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn High School

DE members include:

- Tom Cooley, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Adult, Career and Community College Education, Division of Community Colleges
- Mike Cormack, Administrative Consultant, Office of the Director, Legislative and Policy Liaison
- Kevin Fangman, Deputy Director and Administrator, Division of Learning and Results
- Fred Kinne, Education Consultant, Bureau of Accreditation and Improvement, Division of Learning and Results
- Roger Utman, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges
- Jeremy Varner, Education Consultant, Bureau of Adult, Career and Community College Education, Division of Community Colleges

Dave Palmer, Consultant, Iowa Association of Community College Trustee; Cindy Schulte, Director of Governmental Affairs, Iowa Valley Community College District; and Ann Watts, Coordinator, Emerging Technologies, Des Moines Area Community College served as observers. Jeremy Varner provided the group with an overview of all of the components of SYP.

While there was discussion on all aspects of SYP, the main discussion topic centered on concurrent enrollment and some of the issues surrounding concurrent enrollment during the past year. At the beginning of the discussion on concurrent enrollment, there was a brief description of proposed legislation which would make changes to the current law. During the meeting, it was decided that communication with a variety of stakeholders was in order and times throughout the years were discussed for when this communication should take place. The DE will work to establish the timelines and presentation modes for this communication.

- CurricUNET: The Division of Community Colleges continues to work with Governet (parent company for CurricUNET) on the implementation of the system. With Tom Schenk's recent departure from the DE, Vlad Bassis, Education Consultant, Bureau of Adult, Career, and Community College Education (vladimir.bassis@iowa.gov or 515/281-3671) has assumed the duties of working with Governet and the colleges on the project. By late March, Governet will have a working prototype available for the DE to begin the process. From there, each college will have two designees who will work with the DE on the implementation at their college. While there have been a number of colleges volunteering to be the first for implementing CurricUNET, the DE will have a more detailed timeline, with implementation dates forthcoming. The DE is still looking at a September 2012 deadline for all colleges to be part of the system.

By adopting the CurricUNET system, institutions will be able to easily access Iowa's common course numbering requirements, and integrate local college processes with all state reporting and approval processes at the DE. Over the course of two years, this year and next, the project will fully automate course and program approvals at all 15 of the colleges, making Iowa's curriculum system the first comprehensive curriculum network in the nation containing 100 percent of all courses and programs offered by every community college in the state.

IV. IACCT Update—MJ Dolan, Executive Director, IACCT

- At the 2010 IACCT Annual Convention, the trustees and presidents signed on with the American Graduation Initiative to take the charge and assist with the Completion Agenda. Last year the presidents decided to move forward with the Voluntary Framework Accountability (VFA), and now they are creating the Iowa Learner Success Agenda, which will address completion and also create statewide measuring tools. In May, teams from all of the community colleges will be meeting at Iowa State University (ISU). ISU staff will assist us with the data, and they will be setting out what those measurement tools are going to be on a statewide basis, also keeping in mind that some of the colleges will have individual things they want to measure because of the uniqueness of their region.

In addition, in order to get the data, we also have a statewide contract with the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE). The CCSSE will be looking at the Census survey in the fall of 2012, which would be for the first-time entrants to see what they like, why they are staying, while they are leaving, etc. In the spring, the CCSSE will look at the usual student engagement survey, and they are also going to give some institutional data through another survey, so they can all have a baseline when they start the Learner Success Agenda.

- MJ also thanked Roger Utman for assisting with a presentation on March 21, 2012, to the IACCT Wednesday Leadership Club on "Using Data to Improve Local Programs." Selected data from the Annual Condition of Iowa's Community Colleges 2011 was provided. The main objective was to show how to use data to answer questions. Utman reported that we are moving away from the standard or original use of just collecting data where the perception was that the data was being collected for someone else's purposes. Now the data are intended to trigger college or program improvement efforts. Examples from the Condition Report were utilized to demonstrate this point. The use of data is a powerful tool and it can assist us in answering many questions. The other key is that by reviewing and using data/research, the practice allows for more questions to come up and to be addressed.

- The 2012 IACCT Conference entitled “A Salute to Iowa’s Community Colleges,” will be held on July 25-27, 2012, in Okoboji, Iowa, hosted by Iowa Lakes Community College. The conference will begin on Wednesday, July 25, 2012, at 11:00 a.m. with a golf tournament, and all activities will end before noon on Friday, July 27, 2012.
- The Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) and the DE were contracted by the community colleges to conduct an independent study, which is conducted every five years by the IACCT, on economic impact that community colleges make in Iowa. MJ thanked the IWD and DE. MJ also stated that they like the study being conducted by the IWD and DE because they use Iowa data and they have access to better figures.

V. Rules: Chapter 25 – Academic Career and Employment Program; Tuition Assistance (Adoption) – Roger Utman

Roger Utman presented the Chapter 25 Academic Career and Employment Program; Tuition Assistance rules for adoption. This chapter provides for the implementation of the pathways for academic career and employment program. This is a program for the development of projects that will lead to gainful, quality, in-state employment for members of target populations by providing members of target populations with both effective academic and employment training to secure such employment and customized support services to maintain such employment. This chapter also provides for the implementation of a need-based tuition assistance program to applicants to enable completion of continuing education certificate training programs for in-demand occupations.

A public hearing was held on March 13, 2012, from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., at the Department of Education (DE). No public comments were received; no changes were made to the rules from the noticed version. (NOTE: There is proposed legislation this spring which would change the requirement currently in Iowa Code concerning the certificate level required in the training programs. Should that legislation pass, the administrative rules will have to be revised.)

Motion: Rosie Hussey moved and Moudy Nabulsi seconded to move that the State Board adopt this new chapter of rules.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

**VI. Iowa Community Colleges Joint Enrollment Report 2011—Jeremy Varner,
Education Program Consultant, Bureau of Adult, Career, and Community College
Education**

The Iowa Community Colleges Joint Enrollment Report 2011 provides information on community college students who are jointly enrolled in high school. Joint enrollment of high school students accounts for more than a quarter of the total community college credit enrollment and 13 percent of the total credit hours.

In Iowa, high school students enroll in community college credit courses through a variety of ways, including through Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) courses, college courses offered through a contract between a local school district and a community college, and enrollment in college credit courses independently as a tuition-paying student. The number of jointly enrolled students rose to a record high of 38,892 students in fiscal year 2011.

Year-to-year growth was 1.6 percent, which was well below the typical rate of growth. The average annual rate of growth over the last five years was 8.7 percent. Except where noted, data included in this report are taken from the Community College Management Information System (MIS).

This report was presented to the Community College Council on March 22, 2012, and to the State Board of Education on March 29, 2012. Printed copies are now available, as well as on the DE website.

http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1790&catid=183#HighSchool

Some of the highlights of this report include:

- Enrollment grew to a record high of 38,892.
- Year-to-year growth was 1.6 percent, which was well below the typical rate of growth.
- Average annual growth over the last five years was 8.7 percent.
- Jointly enrolled students accounted for 25.1 percent of total community college enrollment.
- Joint enrollment accounts for 13.0 percent of total credit hours.
- More than one in four high school students (25.2 percent) enrolled in community college credit coursework including more than half of all seniors.
- Most students (83.8 percent) enrolled through courses delivered through a contractual agreement between a community college and school district.

- Eleven percent (11 percent) of students enrolled through Postsecondary PSEO courses.
- Fifty-nine percent (59 percent) of joint enrollees were seniors in high school, and 32 percent were juniors.
- Approximately 51 percent of joint enrollees were female, a lower proportion than the total student body.
- Approximately 10 percent of joint enrollees had a minority racial or ethnic background, a lower proportion than the total student body.
- Of courses taken by jointly enrolled students, the most common subject areas are English language and literature, social sciences and history, and mathematics, followed by foreign language and literature and various career and technical disciplines.

VII. Western Iowa Tech Community College’s (WITCC) Voluntary Framework for Accountability—Terry Murrell, President, WITCC; and Corliss Hassler, Director of Institutional Effectiveness, WITCC

Terry Murrell, President, Western Iowa Tech Community College (WITCC); and Corliss Hassler, Director of Institutional Effectiveness, WITCC, presented to the CCC regarding the Voluntary Framework for Accountability (VFA). WITCC has been selected as one of 40 community colleges to pilot a new VFA that is designed to redefine what success means for two-year institutions nationwide.

The VFA represents the first national system to provide accurate data, operational transparency and the ability for colleges to benchmark student progress and completion data against peer institutions.

The VFA is being developed by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) in collaboration with the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) and the College Board and with funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Lumina Foundation for Education.

The pilot colleges include 37 institutions, two statewide systems, and one multi-college district in 29 states. In mid-January 2012, the VFA pilot colleges tested a series of custom metrics that community college professionals have developed over the last several months. The project fills what community college advocates have seen as a void in measures appropriate to the unique two-year college mission.

Like other VFA pilot colleges, WITCC will work from a draft technical manual developed by four VFA working groups, a technical committee, and a national steering committee made up of veteran research experts and educators from within the college community.

Project leaders are developing the VFA in stages so that they can release and test core measures for which there is broad consensus on technical definitions and available data. Additional measures will be proposed as the participants report outcomes and assess how well they gauge institutional effectiveness. The Voluntary Framework of Accountability will help WITCC compare itself to other community colleges and give us information on how we can continue to improve.