

Meeting Title: Advisory Committee on the Transfer of Adult Career-Technical Programs

MINUTES

[MEETING DATE]
4/17/2008

[MEETING TIME]
10:00 – 3:00

[MEETING LOCATION] STATE LIBRARY
CONFERENCE ROOM D

MEETING CALLED BY	David Burns and Jon Tafel
TYPE OF MEETING	Advisory Committee
FACILITATOR	David Burns and Jon Tafel
NOTE TAKERS	Stephanie McCann
ATTENDEES	Jon Tafel, David Burns, Senator Joy Padgett, Ron Abrams, Roy Church, Robin White, Terry Thomas, Rick McIntosh, Howard Lawson, Chris Pfister, Dan Evans, Mark Nutter, Roscoe Schlachter, Sherry Minton, Monica Posey, Don Van Meter

Agenda topics

[TIME ALLOTTED] 10 MIN [AGENDA TOPIC] WELCOME AND MEETING OVERVIEW [PRESENTER] DAVID BURNS

DISCUSSION	David Burns welcomed the participants to the meeting. He noted that the writing committee is working on the documents for the committee's recommendation and are getting a lot of comments from the committee. He thanked the committee for their comments and said the process is going extremely well. He also thanked Barb Nicol and Denise Pottmeyer for their extensive efforts in making sure the transition to the Regents goes smoothly. The effort has been extremely collaborative. Advisory committee members will now see that the report and strategies are coming together into a collective piece.
CONCLUSIONS	The agenda was distributed and the topic of the USO Strategic Plan introduced.

[TIME ALLOTTED] 15 MIN [AGENDA TOPIC] ADULT LEARNERS AND THE USO STRATEGIC PLAN [PRESENTER] JON TAFEL

DISCUSSION	Jon Tafel noted that Chancellor Fingerhut delivered the 10 year strategic plan for higher education to Governor Strickland and the General Assembly on March 31 st . A copy of the plan can be viewed on the University System website at: http://universitysystem.ohio.gov/ . Participants were referred to page 56 of the plan, where adult learners and workforce training is discussed. Tafel noted that the relationship between the work of this committee and the strategic plan is tightly knitted. Strategies in the 10 year plan for ABLE programs, apprenticeship programs, stackable certificates, and transfer of military credit are all important parts of the Chancellors 10 year plan. The work of the committee is a foundation for the success for the workforce component of the 10 year plan.
CONCLUSIONS	Participants began discussion of tactical overviews.

[TIME ALLOTTED] 75 MIN [AGENDA TOPIC] REVIEW OF REVISED STRUCTURE AND STATUS OF TACTICAL OVERVIEWS [PRESENTER] OPEN DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION	Robin White and Don Van Meter opened the discussion on Strategies 1, 5, 7, and 8. Drafts for each strategy were distributed and participants provided comment on each.
STRATEGY #1	Don Van Meter reviewed the revised version of Strategy 1. He noted the addition of a quote from the Lumina Foundation that nicely encapsulated some of the thoughts of the committee and identified each of the action recommendations. There was general agreement that the document was coming together very well and captured most concerns. Senator Padgett recalled some of the work she has engaged in with her constituents and suggested the addition of organized labor as a partner in the strategy. Ohio is losing jobs to other states that involved organized labor and there is a need for organized labor to recognize the value in the development of new skills in the workforce to meet Ohio's economic development needs. All of the participants agreed that this was an important point and a needed addition to the document. They decided that organized labor would be added to the language in the first action recommendation. A participant mentioned that some employers might read this strategy as necessarily requiring them to

	<p>pay more for educational options for their staff, when in fact some options may be available to them at either no or low cost. It was agreed to make explicit the idea that for some employers feasible options exist that do not necessarily require a high level of expense.</p>
STRATEGY #2	<p>Participants discussed Strategy 2. This document had not been changed since the previous review by the committee. Van Meter asked if there were any changes that should be considered.</p> <p>One committee member noted that the language about stackables should be expanded, though not perhaps in this strategy. It is important to get more detail regarding stackables that makes explicit the need for technical skills acquired through these certificates.</p> <p>David Burns discussed the fact that many employers prefer that their employees get high school diplomas rather than GEDs. Perhaps the plan can note the need to increase opportunities for obtainment of high school diplomas.</p> <p>Van Meter returned to the issue of stackables, noting the excitement in the field for that concept.</p> <p>Tafel closed discussion on Strategy 2 with final comments that the combination of stackables, leveraging partnerships, and aligning ABLE standards shows the coming together of the system for the first time in a long time.</p>
STRATEGY #5	<p>Terry Thomas reviewed Strategy 5. He noted that the writing group had incorporated systemic and transactional language in the document. Thomas also discussed the need for OBR to be at the table with the Ohio Department of Development to effectively meet workforce needs.</p> <p>It was recommended that action recommendation #2, which recommended that programs be transferred, be deleted because the transfer of programs was being carried out.</p> <p>Another participant noted that some of the metrics identified in the strategy did not include adult worker numbers. Thomas noted that the metrics were taken directly from the Chancellor's strategic plan but the group could add to the metrics.</p> <p>It was also mentioned that wherever possible there should be incentives in place to help providers work together to meet goals.</p>
STRATEGY #6	<p>There was a little discussion on Strategy 6 that addressed the dual enrollment section of the strategy. It was noted that a lot of excitement has been stirred by the Seniors to Sophomores program and dual enrollment will get a lot of attention.</p>
STRATEGIES #7 (METRICS) AND #8 (FUNDING)	<p>Participants discussed metrics and funding recommendation. It was noted that there is a lot of information needed about students including data on their aspirations and expectations. However, there are barriers to tracking students between systems.</p> <p>A committee member noted there is a need to align the systems to best obtain the metrics we need for a successful system. Options such as building a new system were discussed, but it was noted that it might not be realistic to assume funding is available for a brand new comprehensive information system. Another committee member suggested that it might be possible to collect additional data in HEI to meet the needs of the system.</p> <p>Jon Tafel noted that there is a group looking at the common high school transcript. In those discussions it has been suggested that some vendors might have options that will help with data needs around adult career technical programs.</p> <p>David Burns noted that recent initiatives point to moving away from the Carnegie unit to learning outcomes (see SB 311). Part of the challenge in moving to learning outcomes will involve sorting out how to transcript experiences that result in learning. The Partnership for Continued Learning is looking at what other states are doing.</p> <p>The funding subcommittee passed around a handout that described the funding subcommittee meeting held on March 20, 2008. It was noted that there needs to be stability in funding. In addition, trust needs to be built among the different groups providing services. The funding subcommittee agreed that funding should not change in the next biennium to allow needed relationships between appropriate parties to develop.</p> <p>Senator Padgett commented that as we go through these changes, we need to be prepared to mix, match, and leverage dollars. It is possible that there may be funding at ODJFS that can be used by the USO. A committee member added that the way dollars are leveraged may differ from community to community. There are different issues to be addressed depending on where you are. A lot of collaboration will be necessary for the system to meet its goals.</p>

	A participant noted that we now have the opportunity to create a governance structure that will put providers in a better position to defend or support needs. There is a strong need for state level direction and now is the time to create the structure to obtain that direction.
CONCLUSIONS	Van Meter will make suggested revisions to strategies and will redistribute at the next meeting.

[TIME ALLOTTED] 35 MIN **[AGENDA TOPIC]** UPDATES ON OTHER TACTICAL ISSUES **[PRESENTER]** OPEN DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION	Van Meter distributed handouts and provided an overview of Strategies 3 and 4.
STRATEGIES #3 AND #4	<p>Van Meter pointed out that the Chancellor's Strategic Plan pulls out adult learners and focuses on them as an audience and how important that focus is for the committee's purposes. He also noted that when there is discussion of making higher education more affordable it is necessary to think beyond the traditional student. This means making financial aid packages more flexible. We need to think in terms of workers who are learning not learners who are working. Financial Aid needs to be available to these people. Also, lawmakers need to design a performance based system as discussed in the recommendation.</p> <p>One representative asked that the language lead with the idea that we are going to align the system in a more effective way and encourage more Ohioans to take advantage of lower cost, high quality options. Doing this will lower the cost of higher education. We will take advantage of local options that are high quality and lower cost.</p> <p>It was also noted that we not build new things, but use existing facilities and resources.</p>
CONCLUSIONS	Van Meter will make suggested revisions to strategies and will redistribute at the next meeting.

[TIME ALLOTTED] 20 MIN **[AGENDA TOPIC]** WRITING COMMITTEE: UPDATE ON THE DRAFT REPORT **[PRESENTER]** ROY CHURCH, ROSCOE SCHLACTER, AND ROBIN WHITE

DISCUSSION	Robin White distributed the draft of the report of the advisory committee.
	White commented that the new title is: <i>Removing Barriers. Expanding Opportunities. An Agenda for Connecting Adult Learners with Economic Success.</i> She thanked the writing team and committee for their work and noted that the work of the committee is coming together into a coherent whole. She asked all committee members to read the report and send their comments.
CONCLUSIONS	Committee members will send suggestions and revisions to the writing team.

[TIME ALLOTTED] 10 MINUTES **[AGENDA TOPIC]** NEXT STEPS **[PRESENTER]** DAVID BURNS AND JON TAFEL

DISCUSSION	Jon Tafel and David Burns thanked the committee for their work. After some discussion the next meeting was moved forward from late May to May 15 th .
	The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.
CONCLUSIONS	The Next Advisory Committee Meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2008