

COMMUNITY COLLEGE COUNCIL (CCC) MEETING NOTES
Wednesday, May 8, 2013 – ICN Meeting
9:30 – 10:45 a.m.

Those in attendance included:

- ❑ Linda Allen, President, Hawkeye Community College
- ❑ Barbara Crittenden, President, Southwestern Community College; and CCC Member
- ❑ MJ Dolan, Executive Director, Iowa Association of Community College Trustees,
- ❑ Dan Gillen, Vice President of Administration and Finance, Hawkeye Community College
- ❑ Rosie Hussey, CCC and State Board of Education Member
- ❑ Mike Knedler, CCC and State Board of Education Member
- ❑ Moudy Nabulsi, Community College Trustee, Southeastern Community College, and CCC Member (via conference call)
- ❑ Max Phillips, CCC Chair and State Board of Education Member
- ❑ Jeremy Varner, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges
- ❑ Stephanie Weeks, Assistant to Jeremy Varner, Division of Community Colleges
- ❑ LaMetta Wynn, CCC and State Board of Education Member

I. Welcome and Introductions—Max Phillips, CCC Chair

Chair Phillips called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Members and presenters introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Meeting Notes—Max Phillips

Chair Phillips asked for approval of the notes of the March 26, 2013, meeting of the CCC.

Motion: Moudy Nabulsi moved and Rosie Hussey seconded to approve the CCC notes as presented.

Action: The notes were passed unanimously by the CCC.

III. Division Updates—Jeremy Varner

Community College State Accreditation Visits

Three (3) community colleges are currently undergoing a state accreditation evaluation. Iowa Central Community College (ICCC) and Iowa Western Community College (IWCC) are receiving comprehensive evaluations which will consist of a desk review and three-day on-site visit; and DMACC is receiving an interim evaluation which will consist of a desk review and one-day on-site visit. These reports will be presented to the CCC on July 22, 2013, and to the State Board at their August 1, 2013, meeting for final approval.

These institutions are the first to go through the new accreditation process, which has been overhauled following several years of mandated study. The new process is more focused and efficient—removing duplication with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) accreditation process, focusing on state requirements, conducting an electronic desk review, and limiting the

intensity and duration of site visits. The process maintains its peer review approach with both state and college reviewers. The DE anticipates moving forward with the next three colleges in fall 2013 and reconvening the state accreditation advisory committee following action by the State Board on the spring evaluations this summer.

Future Discussion Topics of the CCC

As a follow-up to the March 27, 2013, face-to-face meeting at DMAACC, the CCC proposed the following topics for future presentations to the CCC. These topics will be taken to the presidents for their feedback at their June retreat. In the interim, the May CCC meeting featured a presentation by Barb Crittenden entitled “RN-to-BSN Discussion.” (See item V.)

1. Pathways for Academic and Career Employment (PACE) and GAP Tuition Assistance Program
2. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Hub Activities
3. Iowa Community College Completion Initiative (ICCCI)
4. Workforce Training and Economic Development Fund
5. RN-to-BSN Discussion and Related Issues
6. Skilled Iowa and National Career Readiness Certificates
7. Virtual Reality/Simulation Utilization in Community College Programming
8. Project Degree/Gateway to College (Des Moines Area Community College)
9. Smarter Balance Assessments
10. Connection between Iowa State Board of Education Priorities and Community Colleges
11. Quality Matters – Online (Iowa Valley Community College District)

High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) Review Committee

The High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) Review Committee will meet on May 23, 2013, to review three Requests for Proposals (RFPs) from the following vendors: McGraw Hill; Pearson Vue and GEDTS; and ETS. The vendors will be making a presentation of their proposal in order to discuss the content, scope of work, deliverables, and procedures related to the RFP. A decision on a vendor is expected to be made this summer.

Background: The committee is charged with determining the future direction of HSED testing in Iowa. Following is the list of committee members: Juline Albert, Vice President of Instruction, Western Iowa Tech Community College; Darla Helm, Adult Literacy Coordinator, Southwestern Community College; Marcel Kielkucki, Director, High School Completion Programs, Kirkwood Community College; Windy Mihm-Herold, Vice President of Business and Community Services, Northeast Iowa Community College; Andrew Ryder, Research Specialist, Research Institute for Studies in Education, Iowa State University; Sandra Smith, Director of Correctional Education, Department of Corrections; Pam Southworth, Dean of Continuing Education, Iowa Western Community College; and Jennifer Wilson, Director of Adult Literacy Programs, Iowa Valley Continuing Education Center.

Currently, Iowa utilizes the GED® test battery for this purpose; however, several states are exploring alternatives due to significant changes to the assessment and the vendor’s shift to a for-profit enterprise. The group’s first meeting will be focused on reviewing and approving a Request for Information (RFI). The RFI will be used to solicit information about potential vendors, including a description of their assessments, costs, alignment with high school curricula, delivery options, and technology platform. The steering committee is expected to

select a vendor in spring 2014 and then discuss the possibility of additional pathways to a HSED during the summer.

Department of Education (DE) Staffing Changes

Jeremy reported that the two chief positions within the Bureau of Adult, Career, and Community College Education, Division of Community Colleges, have not been filled yet. The chief positions are responsible for providing guidance, leadership, and oversight for community colleges, career and technical education, adult basic education, and other programming. Until the position is filled, Kent Farver will continue serving as acting bureau chief. The division also anticipates hiring two education program consultants in the near future.

IV. IACCT Update—MJ Dolan

- MJ updated the council that Debb Derr, president at North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC), has accepted a position of president of Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham, Oregon, effective July 1, 2013. Former NIACC president, David Buettner, has agreed to take the position on an interim basis. Buettner served as president from 1981 to 2001.
- MJ thanked the Department of Education for their assistance during the 2013 Legislative Session. Listed below is a summary of the session in regard to the approved community college legislative priorities:
 - An increase of \$16.5 million was secured in SGA for FY 2014 (includes faculty salary funding) over the FY 2013 funding level.
 - Level funding was secured for the ACE Infrastructure Fund of \$6.0 million and \$1.0 million in maintenance infrastructure funding.
 - The Workforce Training and Economic Development (WTED) fund was increased to \$15.3 million and the EDA Workforce Development Fund was level funded with \$4.0 million
 - Succeeded in protecting Chapter 260E from any legislative changes.
 - Statutory language establishing PACE career pathways and GAP tuition assistance programs was passed in 2011. This year \$2.0 million was secured in continued funding for the GAP Tuition Assistance program to support tuition assistance for non-credit skill certificate programs.
 - The Kibbie Skilled Workforce Shortage Tuition Grant program was established in FY 2013. \$5.0 million in continued funding was secured to support students in our credit career and technical education programs.
 - \$5.0 million in new funding was secured for the PACE career pathways program.
 - \$5.5 million in new funding was secured for adult education and literacy programs.
 - \$1.5 million in new funding was secured for the statewide work-based learning intermediary network.
 - A Secondary Career and Technical Education Program Task Force will be established by the Department of Education to review the content, quality and availability of career and technical education programs statewide.
 - School districts were given the authority to use funding from their statewide one cent sales tax infrastructure funds in collaboration with other school districts and their community college to support the construction of regional education centers.

V. Iowa Community Colleges Certified Budget Report—FY 2014—Kent Farver

Kent Farver presented the FY 2014 Iowa Community Colleges Certified Budget Report. He indicated this report is prepared to assist the CCC and the State Board of Education members in their role of approval of community college budgets. The report includes the approved budgets for all 15 community colleges.

Farver explained that the Iowa Community Colleges Certified Budget Report is required by Iowa Code and the Iowa Department of Management coordinates the process. The State Board is required to approve the budgets each year by June 1. Farver reviewed the budget process, purpose, and what information is included in the certified budget report.

Linda Allen, President of Hawkeye Community College (HCC); and Dan Gillen, Vice President of Administration and Finance, HCC, made a brief presentation to regarding some of the “real budget issues” effecting HCC.

President Allen and Dan Gillen spoke about the challenges in setting community college budgets and provided the community college’s perspective on the budget process. Allen reviewed a PowerPoint that included information on the following:

- Iowa Community College Percentage of Total Revenue by Source
- HCC Operating Fund Revenue and Expenditures: FY 2012
- HCC Tax Year Comparison of Revenue
- Hawkeye Community College has:
 - Reduced Expenditures
 - Increased Efficiencies through Outsourcing:
 - Maintenance/Custodial Services (FY 2003)
 - Food Services (FY 2005)
 - Printing Services (FY 2006)
 - Mail Services (FY 2013)
 - Reduction of Staff (Attrition)
 - Early Retirement Incentive (FY 2012 and FY 2012)
 - Carefully monitored staffing levels and expenditures to ensure alignment with programming needs and program development.

Farver indicated that he would provide the State Board with information about whether state general aid, property tax revenue, or tuition revenue was used to fund housing or athletic programs. Farver also indicated that he would provide the State Board with the Iowa Code language pertaining to the restrictions on state general aid related to athletic facilities.

Motion: Rosie Hussey moved and Moudy Nabulsis seconded to move that the State Board approve Iowa’s Community Colleges Certified Budget Report—FY 2014.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

VI. RN-to-BSN Discussion—Barb Crittenden

Barb Crittenden reported that in 2011, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) released its report, “The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health.” Following the release of the IOM report, AARP and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) formed a *Campaign for Action* to work toward implementation of the recommendations in the report. Committees known as Action Coalitions have been formed in each of the 50 states over the past two years. They are comprised of representatives of health care, academic leaders, policymakers, and consumers.

The Action Coalition in Iowa was formed in March 2012 and is being led by Dr. Rita Frantz, Dean of Nursing at the University of Iowa College of Nursing, and Wendy Gray, Executive Director of the Iowa Area Health Education Center. The Iowa Action Coalition is focusing on the following two recommendations in the IOM Report.

- Increase the proportion of nurses with at least a BSN to 80 percent by 2020 (they set a goal of 50 percent in Iowa).
- Implement residency programs for entry-level nurses statewide.

The Action Coalition formed a task force on each of the two topics. The Nurse Residency Task Force recently received a grant from the RWJF to support their work. Their goals are to:

- 1) Create a toolkit for health care organizations to implement their own competency-based nurse residency program.
- 2) Create curriculum and online education tools for implementing a competency-based nurse residency program for a statewide cohort of new nurses from critical access hospitals and other small health care providers.

On the issue of increasing the percent of nurses with a BSN, the IOM Report suggested the following strategies:

- Developing defined and seamless pathways for ADNs to complete a BSN.
- Tuition assistance for nurses.
- Creating a culture of continuing education.
- Salary differential and promotion tied to educational advancement.
- Expanded opportunities for student grants and loans for second degree nursing students.

The RN-to-BSN Task Force that is working on the goal of increasing the number of nurses with a BSN in Iowa is working with the Iowa Board of Nursing and they are taking a more regulatory approach. They made the following controversial recommendation:

Beginning January 1, 2015, graduates of Associate Degree programs in nursing education will be required to:

- 1) enroll in a Bachelor's degree in nursing completion program prior to their first license renewal (within two years); and
- 2) complete a Bachelor's degree in nursing prior to the second renewal of their registered nurse license (within an additional three years).

This recommendation generated considerable concern, particularly for employers in rural areas and long-term care. Concerns are related to the potential adverse effect such a mandate would have on the number of individuals choosing nursing as a career potentially resulting in a shortage, increased student debt, lack of return on investment, and hardship on non-traditional aged students, among others. The only other state that has implemented a BSN requirement is North Dakota and the legislature rescinded the requirement in 2003 due to a nursing shortage. Groups in New York and New Jersey have attempted to pass legislation requiring a BSN, but have been unsuccessful.

The Iowa Association of Community College Presidents released a statement supporting efforts for seamless academic progression for nurses, but opposing any mandate that would result in nurses being unable to renew their license if they did not complete a BSN within five years. There are barriers to nurses continuing their education and efforts should be focused on addressing those barriers rather than simply making a mandate.

The Iowa Board of Nursing formed a committee to review the recommendation for requiring the BSN and determine if rules should be written to implement the recommendation. The committee met twice before it was disbanded. The Iowa Board of Nursing then formed a smaller committee (Education Study Committee) to look at the issue, but the committee was placed on hold in March after the Executive Director of the Board left her position.

In April, 14 community college presidents from across the country were invited to attend a National Meeting on Academic Progression in Nursing held in Washington, DC. The meeting was convened by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Barb indicated she was invited to attend the meeting and those present had an open and constructive conversation about the manner in which some are using the IOM Report to support mandates and legislation forcing nurses to complete a BSN, rather than in the more collaborative ways recommended. Representatives of the RWJF indicated they recognize that community colleges play a key role in attracting students to nursing and preparing nurses for practice as well as continued education. The RWJF has funded grants of up to \$300,000 to nine states to develop models of collaboration that will provide for seamless academic progression for nurses. The presidents who attended heard presentations from three states while in DC.