



**TACTC Board of Directors and Legislative Steering Committee
Joint Meeting Minutes
Nov. 14, 2008, 9:00 a.m. to Noon – Olympia and Statewide via ITV**

Call to order: President Carol Landa-McVicker (Spokane) called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

In Attendance:

Karen Seinfeld, Bates
Steve Miller, Bellevue
Jim Cunningham, Bellingham
Felix Ramon, Big Bend
Katherine Kenison, Big Bend
Michael Martino, Cascadia
Sherry Parker, Clark
José Veliz, Clover Park
Enriqueta Mayuga, Columbia Basin
Gary Culbert, Columbia Basin
Sal Beltran, Columbia Basin
Wayne Martin, Columbia Basin
Jeannette Woods, Edmonds
Mauri Moore, Edmonds
Gene Chase, Everett
Carol Warfield, Grays Harbor
Larry Brown, Green River
Elizabeth Chen, Highline
Lyle Lovingfoss, Lower Columbia
Bev Cheney, Olympic
Doug Sayan, Olympic
Pete Crane, Olympic
Frank Irigon, Renton
Rich Zwicker, Renton
Tom Malone, Seattle
Roger Olstad, Shoreline

Debbie Lisser, Skagit
Carol Landa-McVicker, Spokane
Dave Edwards, Tacoma
Jerry Hendrickson, Walla Walla
Jon McFarland, Walla Walla
Kris Klaveano, Walla Walla
Miguel Sanchez, Walla Walla
Mary Grant Tompkins, Walla Walla
Bob Myers, Wenatchee Valley
Kris Pomianek, Wenatchee Valley
Phil Rasmussen, Wenatchee Valley
Tim Douglas, Whatcom
Patsy Whitefoot, Yakima Valley

Guests:

Don Bressler, Renton
Erin Munding, State Board member
Gary Livingston, Spokane

SBCTC Staff:

Charlie Earl
Cindy Hough
Candace Robbecke
David Prince
Janelle Runyon

Welcome and introductions: *TACTC President Carol Landa-McVicker*
Carol Landa-McVicker welcomed participants.

Minutes of April 4, 2008: *Mauri Moore*

TACTC Secretary Mauri Moore presented the minutes from the April 4, 2008, Joint Board of Directors and Legislative Steering Committee meeting.

Tom Malone moved to accept the minutes as presented. Jerry Hendrickson seconded the motion. **Motion Passed.**

Audit Committee report: Sherry Parker

Audit Committee Chair Sherry Parker presented the Audit Committee's report on their review for 2007-08. Committee members suggested information on the bidding process be included in paperwork for the directory printing expenses. Sherry reported the committee found all records accurate and all supporting documentation existed.

Sherry Parker moved to accept the Audit Committee report as presented. Mauri Moore seconded the motion. **Motion Passed.**

Report on the Mission Study Task Force: Bob Myers

A Mission Study Task Force met in early November, with Jim Garrison serving as chair. The study will be a 10- to 20-year forward-looking process. The study will be comprehensive, with everything considered fair game, including the structure of community and technical colleges, analysis of how best to serve the under-served and how to provide better delivery systems. Flexibility will be a key value as the study progresses in looking at future system changes, such as the types of students served and how CTCs operate. Committee members will work to consider all other planning pieces underway throughout the system, including the Higher Education Coordinating Board's strategic plan and a parallel piece from the workforce board. David Prince said the task force effort fits with the State Board's system direction work (http://www.sbctc.ctc.edu/docs/sbctc_system_direction_final.pdf). Other trustees serving on the task force include Sue Cole (Whatcom) and Tom Gaffney (Everett). Several CTC presidents are on the task force as well.

Report on the EMSI study proposal: SBCTC Communications Director Janelle Runyon

Creating Opportunities Chair Judy Guenther was unable to be present due to a scheduling conflict. Cindy reminded attendees that, in last year's budget, a majority of the \$15,000 designated for Creating Opportunities went unspent due to a staffing change. That line item was carried over to this year's budget, in addition to the \$15,000 normally budgeted. Those funds will be used to conduct a study, contracted with Economic Modeling Specialists, Inc. (EMSI) (formerly known as CCBenefits). The study will show the impact community and technical colleges have had in economic downturns. It will look back to assess what has worked. It will also look forward to report what can be done to address economic downturns, if sufficient resources are provided. Preliminary results are expected by the end of December.

Creating Opportunities activities: Janelle Runyon

Janelle reported the Creating Opportunities Committee met in October and reviewed the strategic plan. Suggested changes were being drafted. One of the activities undertaken by the committee is the EMSI study. Key points from the study will be put into brochures and a PowerPoint presentation will be crafted by State Board communications staff. Those pieces can then be personalized for use at the local level. Cindy said the expectation is for trustees to use this information to talk about the value of CTCs.

Report on the Leadership Dinner, 10/1/08: Pete Crane

Every fall, on the evening prior to the TACTC fall conference, a leadership dinner is held to bring together members of the TACTC Executive Committee, the WACTC Executive Committee, State Board members and Charlie Earl. The purpose is to ensure all three corners of the system are in alignment. Pete reported this year's dinner produced a very good discussion, the gist of which was, "Don't starve the solution."

System principles: Lyle Lovingfoss, Carol Landa-McVicker

At the November WACTC meeting, presidents compiled a list of system principles. TACTC leadership crafted a similar list for trustees to use as a guide in working with legislators.

It was noted that the word *systems* was used frequently and, perhaps, occasionally where the word *practices* might be more accurate.

There was discussion about accountability measures and potentially duplicitous requirements imposed by the Legislature. Cindy said college accreditation processes will be able to substitute for a Baldrige accountability requirement.

In discussing the Guiding Values piece, several trustees spoke of a need to set legislative priorities. Cindy clarified that the piece was not intended to show priorities but rather to ensure consistency in messaging. The budget document, Carol noted, does contain priorities. Don Bressler reported that presidents conducted a straw poll at the WACTC meeting to prioritize principles.

The WACTC principles and TACTC Guiding Values were to be presented at a Joint Legislative Committee meeting on Nov. 17. (A draft of the Guiding Values is attached.)

Trustees' reports on their discussions with legislators: *Lyle Lovingfoss*

Trustees were asked to debrief on their discussions with local legislators:

- ***Bellevue:*** Legislators felt the economic bottom had not been hit yet and economic recovery will be rough.
- ***Columbia Basin:*** Legislators said the most optimistic outcome is for there to be no funding cuts.
- ***Renton:*** Their legislators don't foresee funding of any new initiatives.
- ***Tacoma:*** Their legislators wanted to know what cannot be cut and said it better be a short list.
- ***Whatcom, Skagit and Bellingham:*** Legislators told their constituents to "tap down" requests. They said there won't be any extra and probably will be cuts.

There was discussion about a potential federal stimulus package for capital construction, the heart of which would be the CTCs. There was, in the past, a similar federal government package. A question was posed as to whether or not that package was contingent on maintaining state-matched funding. Cindy said she will find out and let everyone know.

Action: Cindy will find out whether a past federal government stimulus package for capital construction was contingent on maintenance of state-matched funding. She will send the information to meeting attendees.

Treasurer's report:

Wayne Martin presented the current TACTC budget treasurer's report, stating the association is on track and fiscally solid. He noted another certificate of deposit will be purchased in the spring.

Tom Malone moved to accept the reports as presented. Lyle Lovingfoss seconded the motion.

Motion Passed.

WACTC report: *President Don Bressler, Renton Technical College*

Committee meetings were conducted via Elluminate (an online conferencing system) and the Friday business meeting was conducted by ITV. President Bressler said the electronic formats were well-received. Items covered at the November meeting included:

- The November WACTC meeting included an academy on safety and security initiatives from the state.
- Presidents will write a letter to council and committee members, asking them to use technology whenever possible.
- The WACTC Constitution was updated to include the Technology Committee.
- The Technology Committee was rolling out a financial aid package to the colleges.
- SBCTC eLearning Director Cable Green reported on a virtual library.
- Statewide capital construction projects will likely face a reduction of \$60-\$100 million. Projects will remain on the list and the timeline will be stretched out.
- Teachers unions are expected to request full-scope bargaining from the Legislature.
- WACTC priorities were discussed. The main message boiled down to: "Don't starve the solution." Nineteen priorities were established, with the top being ABE funding per student. High-demand enrollments and Running Start were other priorities.

ACCT conference on poverty report: *TACTC Administrator Cindy Hough*

Cindy spoke favorably about the recent ACCT Annual Congress in New York. The Washington delegation came in at about 50 people. A presentation was made on Washington's student achievement program and iBest. The room was packed and, by all accounts, it was an excellent presentation. Washington panelists included: Erin Mundinger (State Board Member), Wayne Martin (Columbia Basin College Trustee and TACTC Treasurer), David Mitchell (Olympic College President) and Israel Mendoza (SBCTC). Cindy Hough served as moderator.

One of the keynote presentations was from the Gates Foundation, which has a new initiative aimed at increasing graduation rates. They are building a national strategy to bring people out of poverty and into family wage jobs. In meetings between foundation staff and SBCTC Executive Director Charlie Earl, they expressed appreciation for CTC efforts, such as [iBest](#), [Opportunity Grants](#), student enrollments and the [Strategic Technology Plan](#). Gates has defined CTCs as key to rebuilding the middle class. The work of the initiative coalesces around a three-part strategy:

1. Working with higher education, including CTCs, to improve successes;
2. Increasing participation rates and access; and
3. Technology.

SBCTC report: *State Board Member Erin Mundinger*

Erin commended Carol Landa-McVicker for faithfully attending State Board meetings. Areas of State Board focus include:

- A Mission Study Task Force, which includes State Board members, trustees, presidents and faculty;
- The cost of tuition and the impact of increased costs on students and colleges;
- Working with the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) on their [master plan](#);
- High-demand programs;
- Increasing Baccalaureates and determining the role of CTCs;
- Preparing for the upcoming legislative session;
- Putting together a budget proposal;
- Increasing recruitment and retention; and
- Running Start.

Budget update: *SBCTC Executive Director Charlie Earl*

Operating budget:

The state is facing a large budget shortfall in the next biennium, estimated to be \$3.2-\$5 billion. Some agencies were asked by the Office of Financial Management to provide information on what a 20 percent budget reduction for the next biennium would mean for the system. The next revenue forecast was expected to shape discussions going forward. The agency will seek input from stakeholders on how to respond.

Capital budget:

There was somewhat better, although not definitive, news for capital projects. The capital request was for \$550 million, with a priority array across the projects. The message to OFM was that, with a \$50 million cut, the priorities will hold. Greater cuts would require an elaborate process for establishing priorities. One potential source of additional revenue is in the area of student fees, with input being sought from OFM on that possibility. The State Board is looking at a Certificate of Participation (COP) bond. The capital budget might be in the \$500-\$510 million area; however, it's unclear whether that will hold.

There was discussion that two potential stimulus packages were in the works. One was in the governor's authority and the other was at the Legislature, to be included in the next budget package. One possibility was a stimulus package that, if funded, would create jobs and put money into circulation. To that end, the federal government requested information from the state on which of the proposed capital projects could be advanced in six months.

Election results and economic forecast: *Cindy Hough*

In recent elections, the state Senate lost one Democratic seat. In the House, votes were still being counted. The Republicans had gained either one or two seats. Leadership was expected to stay largely the same.

Adjourn: Seeing no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

D r a f t



TACTC's Guiding Values

Community and technical colleges play an invaluable role in the economic health of our communities and positively change the lives of students. Two-year colleges are the solution as our state strives to remain globally competitive, to stabilize the middle class, and to respond to dramatic economic challenges and demographic changes.

The trustees hold the following as guiding values when advocating for Washington's community and technical college and when setting policy for the governance of our colleges:

Access

Community and technical colleges are committed to expanding equal educational access and opportunity for all students.

Flexibility

Community and technical colleges are flexible in meeting the needs of students. Colleges are flexible in the times and locations of program offerings and in developing new programs to meet the changing needs of the economy.

Quality

Community and technical colleges offer quality higher education with strong academic transfer courses, workforce training to meet the needs of the state's economy, apprenticeship programs and basic literacy programs for adults.

Accountability

Trustees are committed to being held accountable to the public for making the best possible use of the state's investment.

Student Success

Colleges assess their unique and varied missions and commit to the expectation of student success.