Baccalaureate Leadership Council  
Fall 2024 General Meeting Tuesday Oct. 15th 2024  
Skagit Valley College

1. Call to Order 8:45 am.

* Welcome: Dr. Villa
* Housekeeping:
  + Acknowledgment that this is the first in-person meeting since 2019.
* Update on Spring Meeting:
  + Tamra shared details about the upcoming merged meeting between WEC and BLC, scheduled for the spring in Yakima.

1. Introductions

* Agenda Review
* Treasurer Position:
  + Cindy Walker has accepted to run for the treasurer position.
  + The call for candidates is still open, and a vote will take place tomorrow, October 16th.

1. Work Plans Presented by Tamra Gilchrist

Equity:

* Dashboard: Questions were raised about the equity dashboard
* Toolkit Creation:
  + Identify barriers for students.
  + Investigate funding for student graduates who need to pay for licensing.
  + Explore alternative educational plans.
  + Research best practices for marginalized students with AA degrees.
* Discussion topics:
  + What does access look like?
  + How could micro-badging work for BAS programs?
  + Marketing and its impact on application processes—are they creating barriers?
  + Impact of increased tuition costs.
  + Peer mentors, and college success courses—do these talk about BAS programs?

Marketing:

* Review of Marketing Guidelines:
  + A document review is ongoing, with plans to update language, moving away from deficit language toward best practices.
* Service Area Rules:
  + Ken recommended approaching issues with kindness.
* Canvas Module Creation for marketing materials
  + A new Canvas module will be created to allow participants to upload and share content.
* Statewide Marketing Campaign:
  + Group discussion on how to initiate a statewide campaign.
  + Budget considerations.
  + April is Community College Month – the group will work to align the campaign for this month.
* Ken is updating the marketing PDF; participants are asked to check their links and send updates to Ken.

Articulation and System Alignment:

* Creating a repository of current articulation agreements, which will be shared via Canvas.
* Articulation to Masters Programs:
  + Some universities are expressing interest in creating statewide MOUs for master’s articulation.
* Regional Alignment and Best Practices. Example: The Behavioral Health Group's effort to establish a common course.
* Discussions on fostering a community of practice, identifying available resources, and seeking support from the State Board.

Advisory Committees:

* A survey request was presented, with results to be reviewed and shared during the winter meeting.
* Discussions on whether advisory committees should be required and what this structure would look like.
* The goal is not to create more bureaucracy but to elevate the role of advisory committees and leverage their input.
* Possible creation of a repository for advisory committee work to share practices.
* Labor Market Tools:
  + Inquiry about access to tools like LightCast Data.

Policy:

* BAS Approval Process:
  + Reviewing the current BAS approval process and comparing it to the AA program approval request (PAR).
  + A plan to bring a recommendation at the winter meeting to move to IC approval, reducing the approval process from three steps to two steps.
* Gen Ed List:
  + Potential revision of the General Education list.
  + Consideration of the quantitative standard and its alignment with specific programs (e.g., math, statistics, physics).
  + Discussions on whether quantitative requirements should be decided locally or if engineering courses could be added.
* Upper Division Requirements:
  + Should a set number be established to create consistency across programs?
  + Discussion on upper-level certificates and inserting the new library rubric into the application process.

1. CCBA Quality Framework Presentation

* Overview of CCBA thought paper and quality elements presented with outline of activity presented by Sunaina Virendra, Ken Hang and Colleen Pawlicki.
* Padlet App used for collaborative activity to gather thoughts, questions, areas missing and ideas about the nine elements of quality.
  + The top three topics were then discussed in more detail.

1. Noah Overby Dashboard Presentation

* Overview of Dashboard function and troubleshooting recommendations presented, followed by a hands-on activity with some discussion on what attendees noticed when using the dashboard.

1. Hot Topics:

* Hybrid learning has varying interpretations and applications.
* Exploration of different opportunities and methods for experiential learning.
* The importance of collaboration and communication – managing inquiries and providing correct information and resources.
* Emphasis on the need for subject matter experts.
* Better integration with the Student Services Council.
* Update on the tuition discrepancy; the issue is being reviewed, with plans to include changes in the next tuition schedule. Ken and Val will follow up with their contact at BAC.
* State of the Workforce:
* Discussion of gainful employment and BAS faculty vocational certification.
  + Some faculty are vocationally certified, while others are not; typically, core course instructors are required to have certification, but it may not be necessary for non-core instructors.

Baccalaureate Leadership Council  
Fall 2024 Meeting Wednesday Oct. 16th 2024  
Skagit Valley College

Call to Order:  
Meeting called to order at 9:05 AM.

Introductions and Agenda Overview

Approval of Minutes

* Motion: Christie Crawford
* Second: Shannon Reedy
* Outcome: Motion passed

Treasurer Role Appointment

* Cindy nominated to take on the treasurer role
* Motion: Shannon Reedy
* Second: Christie Crawford
* Outcome: Motion passed

Treasurer's Report

* Current Balance: $15,630.31
* Fall Expenses: $1,344.00
* Motion to Approve: Shannon Reedy
* Second: Lea Ann Simpson
* Outcome: Motion passed

Bylaws Review

* Revision focused on updates to BLC preamble and language changes.
* Agreed changes made, and in consideration of time a decision to take a break and revisit in the afternoon was made.

SBCTC Updates – Ken Hang

* WA Student Experience Survey:  
  Survey to be distributed Oct. 28 – Nov. 22. It is a required survey, and all institutions are encouraged to promote participation. Common messaging is available.  
  Partners: Western and State Board Data Team  
  IRB approval granted.
* Institutional Review Board (IRB):  
  The State Board is developing a system-level IRB for institutions that lack one. Expected launch is January.
* OER and Low-Cost Textbook Savings:  
  Total savings approximately $19 million.
* Gainful Employment Regulations:  
  Compliance deadline extended to Jan. 15, 2025.
* Career Launch Endorsement:  
  Career Launch Endorsement information and streamlined application process are available on the CCW website.
* Course Sharing:  
  The procurement process for a course-sharing platform is progressing, with the RFP to begin on Oct. 1, 2024. The goal is to select a platform by the end of Fall 2024. There will be no upfront software cost to colleges, though instructional costs will apply later. Pilot programs include CS.
* AI in Teaching and Learning:  
  The State Board is actively working on policy development to address AI’s impact on education.
* BSCS Allocation:  
  Funds will be allocated in the fourth distribution. Institutions must track spending and report back in Spring 2025, including design, implementation, recruitment, equipment, and student support.
* Accessibility Regulations**:**  
  All materials must be accessible by April 2026. The State Board will offer support.

IC (Instructional Council) Update – Connie Smejkal

* No updates at this time.  
  The fall meeting is scheduled for next week.  
  Val’s Comment:  
  E-learning liaisons often face challenges attending all meetings. It may be beneficial to review and adjust which liaisons are essential. IC will gather written documentation from liaisons to share.

WEC (Workforce Education Council)

* No liaison is present.  
  Discussion on possibly restructuring the WEC’s role.

Articulation & Transfer Council (ATC) – Chris Chen

* Not meeting until next month.  
  Last spring, discussions were held on AI in education.  
  There is confusion regarding common course requests, especially in Prof/Tech courses, and how they should be processed.

RPC (Research and Planning Council) – Kelley Sadler

* New Carnegie Classifications**:**  
  Awaiting new classifications from the federal government. Peer evaluations for NWCCU accreditation require both regional and national comparisons.  
  Impact: Graduation rates

Library Leadership - Dawn Lowe-Wincentsen

* Joint eLearning and Library Meeting   
  Title II ADA requirements (from DOJ, not Dept. of Ed) must be met within two years for accessibility compliance. This includes vendor-provided materials. Institutions should assemble teams for this project, with assistance from State IT personnel.
* DOJ Compliance:  
  Discussion on potentially sending a system-level letter to publishers for ADA compliance. Colleges may consider withdrawing from non-compliant vendors.
* Six-Year Report – Andrew Tutor, Wenatchee:  
  Wenatchee’s six-year report will be informational (traditionally a seven-year report). There may be site visits for some programs.
* Anti-Racist Presentation:

Centers of Excellence – Dan Ferguson

* Current Status:  
  There are currently 12 centers, with a new center opening in Hospitality at Columbia Basin.  
  An open position is available at the Aerospace Center of Excellence in Everett.  
  Reminder: COEs are system-wide resources, not just for their host institutions.
* Share-Out of Upcoming Events:  
  Discussion on ensuring resources are disseminated to faculty and how BLC members can best benefit from COE resources.

Return to Bylaw Discussion

* Additional wordsmithing and discourse on language to remove, update or include.
* Determined there was more to be done, the executive team would make additional changes and share-out before the winter meeting.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 AM.