

Workforce Development Advisory Committee Update – 4/6/17

Olympic College Enrollment Update:

See additional handout.

Workforce Development and Basic Studies

Basic Studies

The High School 21+ Diploma program continues to grow. The new I-BEST Faculty Coordinator, Dr. Mirelle Cohen, is working to expand I-BEST participation. There are 10 I-BEST students enrolled in the Nursing Assistant program and another 30 potential I-BEST students testing this week for Composites and Precision Machining/Advance Manufacturing.

Faculty are working hard, particularly the ESL faculty to meet the requirements of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and Washington State Adult learning Standards (College and Career Readiness Requirements) necessitating numeracy, technology, and employability content in these classes.

Basic Food Employment & Training

BFET student needs continue to grow. A main constraint on program growth is the lack of funding. OC responded to two State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) survey requests regarding the different types of funding available. A request has been submitted for an additional \$90,000 for tuition (50/50 local match required) to be able to serve additional students. Unfortunately only \$16,000 was awarded. The second survey included two scenarios differentiated by date. If OC were to receive funds by April 1, we requested \$50,000 tuition, \$15,405 general institutional support, and \$4,887 in indirect. If OC were to receive funds by May 1, we requested \$50,000 tuition, \$8,853 general institutional support, and \$3,985 in indirect. Approval is still pending.

Career Center

See additional handouts (Career Center Calendar, Fashion Marketing Employer Panel, and Annual Job Fair).

Career & Technical Teacher Certification Program

The Career & Technical Teacher Certification program has an unduplicated headcount total of over 125 teacher candidates participating. Efforts continue to bring the program to Central Kitsap. On June 9, 9 participants will receive their Certificate of Completion for the program. The event will be held in the North-South Conference Room and lunch will be served. Invitations are going out shortly. If you're interested in attending, please let us know.

Tech Prep

On February 28, Olympic College opened its Bremerton campus to approximately 200 seniors, career counselors, and staff members from the local high schools throughout Kitsap and Mason counties. The event, called the "Transition Tour", will allow high school seniors the chance to experience life as a college student, explore potential programs of interest, and gain valuable employment information from local employers.

Each student had the opportunity to select and visit two Professional-Technical programs, as well as meet with local employers to hear tips on writing resumes, interviewing, and acquiring required skills for employment, and to learn how to prepare themselves for entering the workforce. In addition, the seniors toured the campus, with current OC students as tour guides, had lunch on campus, and participated in a scavenger hunt of the Student Services departments with a chance to win prizes of OC merchandise. (Note: Many thanks to Committee Member Carol Blakely who supported participation by a number of her team members!)

Feedback on this year's "It's Your Future" insert has been very positive. (Note: The link was shared by Committee Member Kathy Cocus. Thank you!) Please share with those who may be interested in learning more about professional-technical programs.

Field trips are still being scheduled for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year for Kitsap and Mason County high schools to visit our Electronics, Composites, Machining and Technical Design programs.

Brenda Hale, Program Assistant, continues to review the high schools' career and technical programs for additional articulation opportunities.

Outreach

Workforce Development and Basic Studies staff continues to publicize funding available to qualified prospective and continuing students for tuition, fees, books, and childcare. Through these grant-based programs coordinated by the staff of Worker Retraining, WorkFirst, Basic Food and Education Training (BFET), overall WFD/BS FTEs and headcount enrollments continue to be close to last year's enrollments. Overall OC enrollments are down for Spring Quarter 2017 as compared to Spring Quarter 2016. Specifically the State FTEs are 4,146 which is a decrease of 3.7% from the same day last year FTEs of 4,305. Headcount is also down by 3.0%, 6,654 compared to the same day headcount last year of 6,857.

Outreach included advertisements in *The VIEW*, *Kitsap Sun/USA Today* online news outlets, *NW Navy Life*, BKAT, Mentor highway readerboards, internal digital TV screens, readerboards, updated posters and flyers.

Reservations have been made for an additional booth at the Kitsap County Fair to highlight Professional-Technical programs. Programs will be able to showcase student and club projects like the Mini-Baja buggy, the Electronics/ASOC radio station broadcasting, Unmanned Aerial Vehicle schematics and mock-ups, specialized food from the Culinary program, makeovers from the Cosmetology and Fashion Marketing students and more.

The soft launch for the *Career Pathways* project is nearly completed and preparations for the hard launch next month are underway. The application--sponsored by SBCTC--was designed to help students

identify professional/technical programs leading to employment. A separate *VIE25 Career Pathways* section helps veterans and service members identify certificates that can be completed in six months or less and lead to employment opportunities.

WFD/BS staff will be participating in and partially sponsoring the next open house featuring professional-technical programs, hands-on activities, student clubs, and student services on Tuesday, May 23rd, 2017. The *"Career and Technical Expo - Where Opportunity Meets Innovation"* will partner many areas of the college to attract potential students. The event will highlight professional-technical programs, provide faculty and employer access, feature student and club projects (such as the Mini-Baja Buggy, Manufacturing in the 21st Century, a Fashion Show and more), as well as what Student Services are available at OC.

Worker Retraining

To date, OC has awarded over \$500,000 Worker Retraining funds allocated for tuition, books and supplies.

In an effort to better serve students and minimize the stress students frequently experience by entering college, Worker Retraining staff, along with BFET and WorkFirst, will be moving their offices to the second floor, Humanities and Student Services building. The major move is scheduled for next Friday, April 14th.

Worker Retraining funding for a MS Office Suite instructor at the Bremerton WorkSource continues. OC is reviewing requests from both the Bremerton and Shelton WorkSources to have a team member on campus. There is much support for this from WFD/BS as we see the benefit of having other partners available for students on a predictable schedule. Our hope is to make this work as well.

Worker Retraining staff continue to urge employers to partner with OC to "stretch their training budgets" by funding their eligible full-time workers in career and skill advancement classes as part-time students. Print and online ads continue to support the campaign.

Content continues to be developed for the new mobile monitors, sandwich boards and flip stands to be distributed throughout the college. When completed (in an effort to build our pipeline of prospective students from the high schools), the electronic loops featured on our mobile monitors will be copied and shared with the local high schools for use on their internal closed-loop monitor systems and by the Career Counselors.

New Program Development

- The final finish line has been crossed! Olympic College successfully received the much anticipated approval for the Bachelor's in Applied Science in Digital Filmmaking from the Northwest Commission for Colleges and Universities. OC will be enrolling its first class in Fall of 2017.
- Human Services is seeking approval for a 20-credit certificate for practicing health professionals to add Chemical Dependency Professional to their certifications. The approval paperwork and demand information have been submitted to the SBCTC.

- The notification process to the SBCTC for the addition of MANU 130 (Machine Tools & Precision Measurement) to the Machining program to add) to the 12-credit Certificate of Recognition for Manufacturing Technology – CNC has been satisfied. This change brings the certificate to 18 credits total.
- Two Certificates of Completion in Organizational Leadership and Resource Management have been submitted to the SBCTC for approval. The first is a 25-credit Organizational Performance Improvement Certificate. The second is a 40-credit Advanced Leadership Development Certificate. The certificates were designed to be 100% stackable and align with the “Guided Pathways” focus for the college.
- CIS Faculty have resumed conversations and are revitalizing their interest in designing an interdisciplinary certificate in Social Media. Local economic research shows that within the Kitsap/Mason County area, most employers have added these duties into an existing job description. Faculty will research how the certificate might provide a pathway to a four-year baccalaureate in the academic fields most required for full-time Social Media job descriptions.

WorkFirst

The WorkFirst Program at Olympic College has served 4,549 students since 1992. Since then, about 2,200 students received certificates and degrees from various Professional-Technical Programs, many continued their studies here at OC to receive additional degrees toward a bachelorette degree. Many of our students started as WorkFirst then transitioned to several programs at OC, such as, BFET, OG, SING and regular financial aid funds. Several students also received scholarships from various donors and the OC Foundation.

WorkFirst welcomed Program Coordinator Desiree Rainwater. She is an OC graduate and had worked in several office as OC. Before OC, she worked for AmeriCorps and KCR. Desiree is responsible for coordinating the Life Skills component of the WorkFirst Block Grant. Partnerships with OC colleagues allow the WorkFirst Program in delivering services outlined in the WorkFirst Grant. Success to Career Pathways is one of the offerings available to students. This class is a response to on-going referrals from DSHS for students desiring educational path that will lead to career and self-sufficiency. This class is a feeder class to our professional-technical programs. In addition, Desiree also coordinates several quarterly workshops as students are mandated to participate during school breaks as part of the Federal Guidelines that govern the WorkFirst Program. Many of the workshops are facilitated by our own gems at OC. Such meaningful workshops are Nutrition, Parenting, Personal Safety and Situational Awareness, Student Portfolio, and Yoga and Wellness. Additional workshops that fit the WorkFirst goals are being considered for future offerings.

Autumn Thomas, part-time WorkFirst Program Specialist, also joined the team recently. Autumn started as a Running Start student at OC and also an OC graduate. She transferred to UW and received her BA in Business Administration. Prior to WorkFirst, Autumn worked at a Tribal Center in Seattle and at the International Program here at OC. Autumn is responsible for the Workstudy component of the WorkFirst Grant. The goal is to continue to grow the WorkFirst-Workstudy Program at OC. The goal is to employ 30 students each quarter. We had an average of 17 students since the beginning of the academic year. This fiscal year alone, OC received \$316,000 towards Workstudy efforts. Autumn is working with staff members at several offices such as Career Services, Financial Aid Office and WorkFirst Team in providing work-based learning sites for WorkFirst students, so students are able to apply what they are learning in the classroom into the workforce prior to graduation.

In the current fiscal year, WorkFirst received an additional \$46,000 towards students' financial assistance such as tuition, fees and books and life skills efforts. The WorkFirst Block Grant for FY 2017-18 has been submitted. SBCTC is in the process of reviewing many grants. Funding approval typically are released sometime in June.

WorkFirst staff members are invited to attend the Mason County Resource Fair next month. This Resource Fair is geared towards staff members and agency partners who are serving the WorkFirst community. There are at least 30 partnering agencies that will be represented. Olympic College will have a table to showcase many of our offerings and services available to the community. OC staff members from Shelton Campus and Mason Transit will be in attendance. Jane Blackman and Teresa McDermott are part of leading this effort in partnership with DSHS, Commerce and Employment Security in Mason County.