



LOWER COLUMBIA COLLEGE 1600 Maple Street, Longview, WA 98632

GENERAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

5:30 p.m. Thursday, December 5th, 2019 LCC Student Center Conference Rooms

I. Meeting called to order at 5:32

II. ATTENDEES

Natasha Allen, Rightline Equipment
Melissa Boudreau, Kelso High School
Julia Collins, Castle Rock High School
Sara Hegnes, Wee Care Day Care
Nate Hockett, Cowlitz County Sheriff's
Richard Leu, Selway Machine Tools
Ann Mette-Smeenk, Child and Adolescent Clinic
Kathy Miller, Red Canoe Credit Union
Kristin Niehenke, Toutle Lake High School
Charles Zimmerman, Bob's Lil Car Hospital
Jud Britt, Woodland High School
Michelle Hendrickson, Cascade Middle School
Taylor Beck, Kelso High School
Wayne Miller, Woodland High School
Wendy Droke, Kelso High School
Kimberly Miller, Woodland High School
Andrea Bergquist, R.A. Long High School
Megan Lamb, Kelso High School
Kirk Reinbold, Toutle Lake High School
Sam Kell, Mark Morris High School
Megan Moon, Kelso High School
Jocelyn Schauer, Mark Morris High School
Dan Ruiz, R.A. Long High School
Audra Dregg, Discovery High School
Tamra Gilchrist, LCC
Nadine Lemmons, LCC
Dani Trimble, LCC

III. AGENDA ITEMS

a) Strengthening Career and Technical Education (CTE) Perkins V



LOWER COLUMBIA COLLEGE 1600 Maple Street, Longview, WA 98632

Dani Trimble shared a Perkins Overview document with those in attendance and gave a brief overview of Carl Perkins funding and how those funds are allocated to the college for the support of career and technical education and alignment of post-secondary education with K-12 education. She shared with the group that the current reauthorization (reauthorized July 2018; effective July 2019) of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act Version V brings many changes. States are operating under a new one year transition plan (July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020) and are required to develop a comprehensive local needs assessment involving multiple stakeholders in planning, evaluation and final application. Major tenets of Perkins V include rigorous, innovative and high-quality programs; commitment to equity, access and inclusion; programs that lead to employment in high-demand fields; stakeholder engagement and collaboration; and programs of study aligned with K-12 and local needs. Funding will be linked to this comprehensive needs assessment.

Element 3: Evaluation of CTE Programs (Size, Scope, Quality and Alignment)

Tamra Gilchrist led a discussion about Programs of Study at the college and how they align with K-12 Programs of Study. Steps to better align programs included having K-12 representation at LCC Professional/Technical Advisory Board meetings.

Tamra shared LCC's Professional/Technical and Customized Education Monitoring Report 2014-2018, explaining that this report is presented to LCC's Board of Trustees each year. She took the group through a review of the data that looks at enrollment, industry licensure practices within Programs of Study, student satisfaction, employer satisfaction, percentage of students going to work upon completion of certificate or degree.

Board discussion about the data – cyclical enrollment and students going to work but then end up returning to school; when the economy is good enrollment is down and the challenge to retain students through completion; many students are attending part-time, looking for online options or hybrid modality.

Charlie Zimmerman asked about percentages for one of the programs showing high enrollment but low percentage going to work. LCC staff shared that there are many factors that would influence this data: enrollment reflected students that were in pre-programs before acceptance into full program; any student going to work out of state or self-employed would not be counted in employment percentage.

Natasha Allen encouraged expanding work-based learning in all programs; many employers will not hire a person coming out of school with a two-year degree if they don't have hands-on shop experience.

Continued discussion about top trends and where LCC should focus on growth – encourage industry partners, faculty and even recent graduates to visit schools and talk to students about professional/technical career options; provide more activities like Try-



LOWER COLUMBIA COLLEGE 1600 Maple Street, Longview, WA 98632

A-Trade. Charlie encouraged a greater concentration on electrical and physics in some programs; find ways to help young people understand that vocational programs require technical skills and the trades/manufacturing/automotive aren't like they use to be; so many industries now rely on computerization and automation.

Ann Mette-Smeenck said that the student who thinks they are just going to be an auto mechanic ... there is no such thing as just a mechanic. "When my car is broken they are the most important person in the world."

Board discussion about career exploration at the 7th and 8th grade levels; schools inviting people to come in and share how they found their path, how they are doing; more of this type of activity is occurring in the schools.

LCC, CTE K-12 partners, chamber education committee and STEM Network are building annual calendars, sharing planning activities to create more opportunities for students.

Labor market data for Top 25 Jobs and Top 25 Industry Certificates for online job postings in Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Lewis and Clark counties was shared with the group.

Tamra wrapped up the discussion by encouraging those in attendance to look at the monitoring report data and consider where we are today and where we want to be; this drives where money is allocated in the Perkins V plan. Attendees encouraged to reach back to LCC staff with suggestions/recommendations.

b) College updates

University Center

LCC currently has the following four year universities as partners: Warner Pacific, City University, WSU Vancouver, and Western Governors' University; potentially adding a fifth partner WSU Global.

Guided Pathways

Tamra shared that LCC is involved in Guided Pathways initiative that encourages students to consider pathways and pipelines; consider what you are pursuing ninth through 12th grade and how that path can take you to a two year college, apprenticeship or a four year degree.

ctcLink and PeopleSoft

All 34 colleges in Washington are moving to a new student, financial and personnel management system; occurring in waves; LCC is expected to go live March 2020.

c) Advisory board chair reports

CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY STUDIES (CDS)

Ann Mette-Smeenck shared with the group that the CDS Advisory Board discussed the changes coming January 2020 through the Department of Health – mental health counseling services will be combined with chemical dependency studies. The concern centers on the training that counselors receive and whether they will see how very



LOWER COLUMBIA COLLEGE 1600 Maple Street, Longview, WA 98632

different the two issues are; people with no chemical dependency training will be able to counsel; there is great concern about the low numbers of Chemical Dependency Professionals and what it is going to look like when behavioral health/mental health counselors attempt to tackle the issue of chemical dependency.

AUTOMOTIVE

Charlie Zimmerman told the group that enrollment is down in both beginning and advanced automotive classes; the majority of students in the Automotive Technician Degree track are currently taking general education requirements to finish the program. He said the need for equipment upgrades was also discussed at the meeting and what opportunities there might be to simulate technical skills students will need when they go to work in industry such as an engine control system that would allow students to experience how wiring and systems work together.

He encouraged attendees to participate in activities hosted at LCC for young people, specifically Try-A-Trade, to encourage them to consider the trades as a viable career path. Kirk Reinbold brought students from Toutle Lake. Students were engaged and taking the activity approach with hands-on opportunities is the way to go.

Try-A-Trade will be offered again in May 2020.

Board discussion about involving students that aren't necessarily in the CTE track to expose them to options. K-12 teachers would like to see more trades women involved in these events. LCC is planning a non-traditional event directed at young women next Spring that will feature women from industry.

BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY (BTEC)

Kathy Miller shared that the BTEC Advisory Board discussed the Guided Pathways initiative and encouraging students to declare a career path early. Several CTE teachers attended the open discussions were very helpful, provided an opportunity to see how Programs of Study and intertwined between high school and college.

Nadine Lemmons also expressed appreciation for K-12 in the same room, a look at the articulation piece for secondary and post-secondary education, dual credits, keeping it seamless and providing opportunity for fast-tracking into a career path.

Discussion also included opportunities for faculty and/or industry to visiting middle school or high school classrooms and sharing information about career paths.

The board was shown the updated web pages and the new trades video; approved of the direction and the Aha! moment it gives students "oh I can see myself there". Further discussion of younger students and interest in virtual reality activities like welding and mechanical simulators, allowing them to come to campus and see and do.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (ECED)

Sara Hegnes shared with the group that many changes are happening in Washington for ECED. Standards of education for providers has increased, including mandated college education for all ECED directors and element of continuing education each year.



LOWER COLUMBIA COLLEGE 1600 Maple Street, Longview, WA 98632

Enrollment is up in ECED and board discussed the recent addition of the BAS-Teacher Education is most likely the reason because it creates a pathway for students whether they plan to become a certified teacher or if they intend to continue to work in early childhood education.

She shared that the board also discussed the need to get more men thinking about the teaching field as a viable and important path.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (CJ)

Nate Hockett told the group that enrollment in CJ is also down. The board reviewed labor market data that showed expected growth of 7% in several related fields over the next 10 years in Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Lewis and Clark counties. Anita Quirk shared information about program changes including the addition of a juvenile justice class, dropping the business law class, and exploring the addition of a community policing class. She also shared information about changes to the course that focuses more on report writing.

The CJ board continues to discuss options for LCC hosting a Reserve Academy. Anita shared that she has developed a standards and requirements document for potential students so they can see the expectations before they start in the program. Too many students could not get employment because of some past offense that eliminated them from working in the criminal justice field. The provision of expectations of employers upfront will prevent students from wasting time and money.

MACHINING AND MANUFACTURING

Richard Leu told the group that enrollment is also down in Machining and Manufacturing, which appears to be the case across programs with a few exceptions. Members discussed the difficulty in getting quality machinists and that they are willing to take on employees and train them as long as they are committed to coming to work and interested in learning.

Board is interested in having a video created for machining similar to the one created for the trades.

Discussion about equipment and need to add new laser alignment and vibration analysis tool; addition of new manual machine lathe.

Richard shared that he is working with LCC faculty to develop Haas Operator Certification program.

WELDING

Natasha Allen shared with the group that welding has 32 students in the morning class, 18 in the afternoon class and 14 in the evening class. Board reviewed labor market data for four county area and there continues to be a demand for people with welding skills. Board discussion about demand for specific welding skills and LCC faculty attempt to touch on each but concentrate on broad range of skills.



LOWER COLUMBIA COLLEGE 1600 Maple Street, Longview, WA 98632

Natasha shared that LCC recently added online coursework for welding theory. She took some of the classes and found them very helpful. Kirk Reinbold from Toutle Lake High School said he is also using some of the Miller Open Book online curriculum.

Kalama High School is aligning its welding program with LCC's.

Board discussion about hosting tours at Topper Floats, Rightline Equipment and Vigor to give students exposure to industry.

CTE instructors would like to see success stories from LCC students/alumni and have that shared in the middle school/high school classroom.

Natasha suggested considering an advisory committee specifically for CTE activities; potential to arrange as a web based meeting to keep partners informed of upcoming activities.

Tamra Gilchrist shared that K12, LCC, Chamber and STEM Network are working on a yearly plan that can be shared out.

IV. UPCOMING PROGRAM OR COMMUNITY EVENTS

a. Regional Job Shadow Day

1:30 to 5 p.m. Dec. 11th. Help junior and senior high school students get hands on experience in the work place. Contact Bill Marcum, Kelso Longview Chamber, 360-423-8400, bmarcum@kelsolongviewchamber.org, if you are interested in hosting a student for 2 to 4 hours.

b. Regional Apprenticeship Fair

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. January 23rd, LCC Health & Sciences Building
Labor representatives from several trades and apprenticeship programs will share information about their programs. Students and families are invited to this free event to learn what they can do now, as a high school student, to prepare for a future career in the trades. Please register in advance in order to maintain a headcount at [Apprenticeship & Trades Family Information night](#).

c. LCC Welding Competition

4:45 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 20th. Students and teams from 12 area high schools compete for prizes donated from local vendors. Join LCC instructors, guest speakers, and fellow area students to learn about a future career in welding. Food and beverages provided. For more information, contact Randy Byrum, LCC welding instructor, at 360.442.2740 or rbyrum@lowercolumbia.edu

d. NEXT MEETING (DATE/TIME/PLACE): TBD

V. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.