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HECB to review budget impacts, strategic master plan progress

OLYMPIA—The Higher Education Coordinating Board will review the impact of recent higher education budget cuts on student access and completion at its regular meeting June 30 at Seattle Central Community College. The meeting runs from 9 a.m. to noon in the Mitchell Activity Center, Room 210.

A student panel will discuss the important role state student financial aid programs play in helping them achieve academic success. The panel discussion will follow a brief staff presentation on the status of state financial aid programs, and on the typical types of aid packages received by students.

Staff also will provide a review of the potential impact of several major bills, passed in 2011, on student access and success. A bill establishing new degree targets for public higher education institutions directs the HECB to develop a new accountability and monitoring system. The bill, E2SHB 1795, also requires institutions to develop performance plans with the Office of Financial Management.

The Board also will hold a Strategic Master Plan work session focusing on the master plan goal of funding for performance and results. The importance of accountability as a lever to foster access and affordability will be discussed, as well as how to establish a common set of accountability and performance measurements from a broad spectrum of accountability measures now in play.

A panel representing the Council of Presidents, Office of Financial Management, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, and the Washington Student Lobby will provide additional perspective and feedback.

The Board's Education Committee will report on and ask for approval of a resolution recognizing and endorsing online competency-based education as an important part of Washington's higher education system. The resolution directs staff to work with Western Governor's University to eliminate unnecessary barriers to the delivery of competency-based education and to integrate WGU Washington into Washington's higher education policies and strategies.

Resolutions approving new degree proposals, moderate degree changes, and changes to the program review and approval process will be considered by the board in the final 30 minutes of the meeting. Significant changes to streamline the degree program review and approval process have been proposed.

Briefing materials for the meeting are available at: www.hecb.wa.gov/boardmtgs/index.asp

Who: Higher Education Coordinating Board

What: June regular meeting

**Where: Seattle Central Community College
Mitchell Activity Center, Room 210**

When: Thursday, June 30, 9 a.m. – Noon.

Regular Meeting – June 30, 2011

9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

- *Ethelda Burke, Chair, Higher Education Coordinating Board*
- *Paul Killpatrick, President, Seattle Central Community College*

9:15 a.m. Impacts of the 2011 Legislative Session on Student Access and Completion in Higher Education

Wrap-up of major impacts of 2011 Legislative Session

Staff will review four major bills passed in 2011 impacting student access and completion.

Budgetary impact on institutions

Staff will review the impact of the 2011-13 budget on higher education institutions. Higher education took a 24 percent reduction in state support.

Impact of financial aid on student access and degree completion

Staff will provide a brief overview of legislative actions related to financial aid and a panel of students will describe the vital role financial aid programs play in their success.

10:30 a.m. Strategic Master Plan Work Session

The focus will be on the master plan goal of monitoring and funding higher education for results. Staff and a panel of higher education sector representatives will discuss how new legislation will impact the strategic master plan update.

11:30 a.m. Education Committee and Action Items

- *Sam Smith, chair*

Three resolutions will be offered for approval.

- A Bachelor's of Science in Aerospace Engineering between the University of Washington and the United Arab Emirates University.
- Proposed changes to program review and approval policies.
- An endorsement of the Western Governors' University.

Consent Agenda

Additional program approvals will be offered as part of the consent agenda

- **CWU MS Computational Science**
- **EWU Ed.S. School Psychology**
- **UW Bothell BS Electrical Engineering**
- **UW Seattle MS Computational Linguistics**
- **UW Tacoma BA History**

Noon Adjournment

***Public Comment:** A sign-in sheet is provided for public comment on any of the Board items.*

***Meeting Accommodation:** Persons who require special accommodation for attendance must call the HECB at 360-753-7800 as soon as possible before the meeting.*

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