



January 2011

DRAFT – Minutes of November 16, 2010 Board Meeting

Board members present

Charley Bingham
Ethelda Burke
Roberta Greene
Earl Hale
Jesus Hernandez
Addison Jacobs
Sam Shaddox
Sam Smith

Board Work Session

On November 15, the Board conducted a work session from 3:30 - 5p.m. to review and discuss the HECB's 2011-13 higher education budget recommendations. The Board took action on the recommendations at its regular meeting the following day.

Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Jesus Hernandez opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. Nov. 16 and thanked Chancellor Hal Dengerink for hosting a reception for the Board the previous evening and for giving the HECB the opportunity to meet at the Washington State University Vancouver branch campus.

Dr. Dengerink described how WSUV became a branch campus in 1989. The school's original charge was to provide access for place-bound upper division and graduate students. About five years ago, studies showed that baccalaureate attainment in the southwest area of the state was low. Data released by the State Board for Community & Technical Colleges showed that a four-year college was needed in the area. Subsequently, the Legislature authorized WSUV to admit freshmen students in fall 2006 while continuing to accept upper-division and transfer students from the two-year colleges.

Asked about the current economic downturn, Dengerink stated that by using savings and revenue from tuition, WSUV has not had to lay off faculty or staff. Administration officials continue to look for efficiencies, such as combining administration of some programs to cut cost. Dengerink said the biggest impediment to WSUV's growth is insufficient / lack of state funding for capital projects.

Recognition of John Klacik, Retiring HECB Director

Ethelda Burke, Financial Aid chair, read the Board's resolution for John Klacik, HECB director for student financial assistance and agency staff for 25 years. Hernandez presented Klacik a plaque and thanked him for his contributions and commitment to higher education. Klacik thanked the Board in turn and his many colleagues both within and outside the agency.

Action: Ethelda Burke moved for approval of **Resolution 10-26**, honoring John Klacik for his many years of service to Washington students. **Roberta Greene** seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda Items Approved

Action: Sam Smith moved for approval of the November agenda items. **Charley Bingham** seconded the motion. The agenda items were unanimously approved.

1. Minutes of the Board's October meeting in Spokane;
2. The Board's calendar for 2011 (*Res 10-27*);
3. A new degree program for EWU, BS Health Informatics Technology & Management (*Res 10-28*);
4. And modifications to minimum college admission standards (*Res 10-29*).

2011 Board Officers / Board Committee Assignments

Under the terms of office of the board Bylaws, board officers serve one-year terms, which terminate on Dec. 31 of each year and until successors are elected. The Executive Committee recommended the following slate for 2011:

Ethelda Burke, board chair
Earl Hale, vice chair
Jesus Hernandez, chair of Financial Aid Committee
Charley Bingham, chair of Fiscal Committee
Sam Smith, chair of Education Committee

Action: Jesus Hernandez moved for approval of the 2011 Board slate. **Roberta Greene** seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Incoming Chair Ethelda Burke requested that HECB vice chair Earl Hale function as co-chair in view of her busy schedule as Superintendent of the Tukwila School District.

Notification: Proposed Amendments to Board Bylaws

Hernandez described the Executive Committee's proposed amendments to current board Bylaws:

- Eliminate the position of board secretary and add the duties of secretary to the vice chair; and
- Limit the membership of the executive committee to board chair, vice chair, and the chairs of three standing committees.

Other proposed amendments are technical fixes. As required by current Bylaws, the Board will vote on the proposed amendments at its next scheduled meeting.

Report of the Executive Director

Don Bennett reported on the upcoming legislative session, the changes in legislative leadership, and the implications of the election on higher education. Next year Gov. Gregoire will head the National Governors' Association. This will have implications for the HECB in terms of the national higher education agenda. One issue we are likely to see raised involves the National Governors' Association *Compete to Complete* measurements.

Other activities and programs included in Bennett's report:

- Higher Education Funding Taskforce – December will be devoted to outreach and preparation and communicating the recommendations to key legislators before the start of the January session.
- ERDC effort - The Education Research and Data Center was established at OFM by the legislature for the purpose of building and maintaining a P20 data system, which requires collaboration from all education agencies, including the HECB. ERDC received a \$17.3 million grant for the effort; HECB's portion of the grant will support the development of a new program database. The ERDC has delivered a preliminary data file to us for the baccalaureate follow-up study.
- GEAR UP conference - The fourth annual GEAR UP regional conference organized by HECB staff was held in Vancouver Oct 24-26. In four years the event has grown from 270 participants from four states to 350 participants from nine. It has become the most prominent GEAR UP event west of Mississippi, with participants from Arizona, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.
- College Readiness Projects - Randy Spaulding, HECB director for academic affairs, coordinated a special conference titled "Educators for the 21st Century" that targeted participants in the HECB's College Readiness Projects in math and science. The 2-day conference brought together 64 teachers, higher ed faculty, and administrators from across the state.

2011-13 Institutional Budget Requests

Fiscal Committee Chair Charley Bingham provided introductory comment. The HECB, the baccalaureate institutions, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC), and the Office of Financial Management (OFM) worked on the budget proposal, which reflects the awareness that a funding gap will continue to exist in 2011-13. However, there is a need for the state to re-establish a stable funding floor for higher education.

The \$3.34 billion budget proposal represented a 10 percent share of the State General Fund and a small increase in funding to provide financial aid for about a quarter of 22,000 needy students who would otherwise not be served. "We are painfully aware this budget proposal does not meet the human and economic needs of this state," Bingham said. "Our colleges and universities are

already doing more with less, and further cuts would be a disaster to this state's economy and quality of life."

Although the proposed budget would provide some fiscal stability for higher education, which has suffered cuts averaging more than 30 percent in the last three years, it is not enough to repair the damage caused by those cuts. Examples of the impact of recent budget cuts include:

- 2,741 state funded enrollment slots eliminated
- State funding for each full-time college student reduced by 14 percent
- Only 77 percent of enrolled students who are eligible for state financial aid are now receiving assistance, compared to 98 percent in 2009
- 22,000 students who qualified for a State Need Grant will not receive one this year
- State Work Study funding cut by a third.

Calling it a "survival budget," the Board warned that further cuts to higher education in the 2011-13 budget cycle would imperil the economic future of the state and its citizens. "We all know we have a crisis and a looming disaster if we don't do something out of the ordinary this legislative session," said Jesus Hernandez, board chair.

<p>Action: Roberta Greene moved for approval of <i>Resolution 10-30</i>, the 2011-13 higher education budget,. Earl Hale seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.</p>
--

White Paper: Why Increasing Educational Attainment is so Important for Creating Jobs

John Lederer, HECB associate director of academic affairs, presented his research brief on the relationship between college degree attainment and employment levels in both the U.S. and Washington State.

Nationally, the unemployment rate among workers with bachelor's degrees or higher was nearly 5 percent in 2009, while the unemployment rate for workers with only a high school diploma was nearly 15 percent, Lederer said. States with better educated workforces tended to have lower unemployment rates in 2009.

With high employment in fields such as computer science, engineering, biotechnology, the health sciences and other fields requiring at least a bachelor's degree, Washington has been somewhat buffered from some of the worst effects of the recession. But Lederer cautioned that Washington will need to substantially increase the number of younger adults earning college degrees to maintain this advantage in the future.

In 2008, Washington ranked eighth in the nation in the number of persons aged 45-64 who held associate degrees or higher. The state achieved this ranking, in part, by importing workers with bachelor's and advanced degrees from other states and countries – a practice it may not be able to sustain in the coming decades as demand for educated workers continues to increase and the baby boomers begin to retire.

Washington currently is ranked 21st among states in the percentage of its residents aged 25-34 who have earned a college degree. Washington's younger adults have lower rates of college attainment than the older generation ahead of them.

By contrast, in another highly educated state, Massachusetts, the youngest cohort of working-age adults has attained a higher level of education than older Massachusetts residents. Unless Washington can bring more young workers to similarly high levels of educational attainment, the state's competitive ability to attract and retain knowledge-based enterprises will be negatively affected.

Applied Baccalaureate Selection Process & Criteria

Christy England-Siegerdt, HECB associate director for policy, planning & research and Jan Yoshiwara, director for education services, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, discussed the background, selection process and criteria for applied baccalaureate degrees.

As an additional measure for increasing access to baccalaureate degree programs, the 2005 Legislature allowed up to four community and technical colleges to offer a baccalaureate degree program in an applied field. Applied baccalaureate degrees increase access and educational attainment by allowing place-bound AAS holders to maximize the application of technical course credits toward a bachelor's degree, serve students with limited access to bachelor's degree programs, and fill skill gaps in specific occupations.

Three additional institutions were authorized in 2007. In 2010, the Legislature removed the pilot status from applied baccalaureate degrees as part of the System Design Plan bill, and removed the limitation on the number of colleges that could offer the programs.

The HECB and SBCTC have developed common criteria and a process to guide further development of applied baccalaureate degrees that preserve each Board's independent approval authority. The proposed criteria consider student and employer demand; access for place-bound students; alignment with existing programs, mission, and goals; rigorous, appropriate curriculum; qualified faculty; appropriate student services; and capacity for sustainability.

The proposed process consists of six key steps to follow, including notification of intent, a statement of need, a full proposal, SBCTC review and recommendations, and HECB review and recommendations.

Resolution 10-31 sought Board approval of the work completed so far, including further efforts to refine the criteria and processes as needed.

Action: Sam Smith moved for approval of the applied baccalaureate selection process & criteria, *Resolution 10-31*. **Roberta Greene** seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

College Bound Scholarship Program

Rachelle Sharpe, HECB associate director for student financial assistance, provided background information, program design and process, student demographics, partnerships and emerging issues for the College Bound Scholarship Program.

Established by the Legislature in 2007, the College Bound Scholarship was created to provide financial assistance to low-income students by bridging the gap between a State Need Grant award and full public tuition and fees.

Nearly 67,000 students have applied for the College Bound Scholarship. The success in signing up students for the program is attributed to strong partnerships with the K-12 system, community partners, and college access providers.

A data-sharing agreement with OSPI allows schools and the Board to monitor the progress of College Bound students. The first cohort of College Bound students will graduate from high school in 2012.

The HECB has requested funding for a continued endowment to cover future payouts in 2014 through 2016.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.