

Minutes
State Board of Community Colleges
STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
Caswell Building, AW Conference Room, October 17, 2019

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Clark Twiddy, Chair
Burr Sullivan, Vice Chair
Bobby Irwin
Jim Rose
Dr. Samuel Powell

Members Absent: Hari Nath, Scott Shook, Bob Stephens, Jesse Watts

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

David Willis	Anne Bacon
President Peter Hans	Kelly Barretto
Jennifer Haygood	Linda Suggs
Andrea Poole	

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Twiddy called the meeting to order at 12:25 p.m. in the AW Conference Room of the System Office.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Barretto took the roll of the Strategic Planning Committee members. With five Committee members in attendance, a quorum is present.

ETHICS STATEMENT

Ms. Barretto read the Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Statement and asked if there were any known conflicts. None were noted.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Twiddy asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the October 17, 2019 meeting. Mr. Rose made the motion to approve the agenda, Dr. Powell seconded, and the Committee approved the agenda unanimously without change.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Twiddy asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the August 15, 2019 meeting. Mr. Irwin made the motion to approve, Mr. Sullivan seconded, and the Committee approved the minutes unanimously without change.

FOR INFORMATION

Planning Meeting: Summary of SBCC-Identified Priorities (Attachment PLAN 01)

Ms. Bacon recapped the highlights of the State Board Planning Meeting that took place in Wilmington in September. Board member feedback was exchanged as Vice Presidents facilitated conversations to identify policy issues that would come before the Board over the year ahead. The issues that were most commonly identified were enrollment and retention, barriers to access, distance learning and college readiness. Other issues that garnered interest were achievement gaps and labor market outcomes.

Priorities that were identified include following the work of the Enrollment Task Force, interaction with other governing Boards, exploration of the definition of “labor market outcomes,” employment prior to completion of a credential and its impact on metrics, analyzing achievement gaps, disparities in access and periodic updates on strategic plan tactics.

Discussion: The group discussed the impact and effect of employment prior to completion of a credential, which can depend on the industry and the employer. Ms. Haygood noted exploration of this topic will be ongoing as there are variables that impact these outcomes. For students with social security numbers on file that are employed by a North Carolina employer (excludes federal, self-employed and out-of-state employees) we have wage data available from the Department of Commerce to help assess earnings increases for program completers. More discussion of this topic is to come. Mr. Sullivan commended the restructuring of Board committees to permit broader participation by the entire Board with the Strategic Planning Committee.

The collected feedback will serve as a roadmap for focus on issues of interest such as disability services and credit for prior learning.

Cybersecurity: The System’s Richmond Community College Response and Risk Prevention

Jim Parker briefed the Committee on the ransomware attack on Richmond Community College in July of this year. Mr. Parker highlighted the following points:

- Attacks are usually directed at leadership with an associated monetary demand.
- For two weeks, 20 System Office IT staff members were engaged at Richmond to remediate the attack, along with the NC National Guard Cyber Unit and the Charlotte FBI.
- The Board should know what it takes to operate a college from a technical perspective; it is also important that colleges operate as a team since no one institution has all of the knowledge, skills and abilities of its IT staff to cover all aspects of this type of event.
- In response to this event, Stephen Reeves of the System Office was appointed Chief Information Security Officer.

- President Hans commended Mr. Parker and the IT team for their response to the Richmond event, as well as Dr. McInnis' cooperation, and noted the importance of maintaining a System IT department separate from and unconsolidated with DIT to be able to respond to colleges' needs effectively and for a nimble and expeditious response. We are engaged in a discussion about an MOU that would outline how we would coordinate in this realm related to IT.

Discussion: In response to a question regarding prevention and recovery strategy, Mr. Parker noted risk mitigation by being in the Cloud, the need to standardize disaster recovery for use as a template for colleges to follow, improvement of network infrastructure, and changing behavior as it relates to use of technology.

Strategic Plan Quarterly Updates

Anne Bacon provided updates on tactics in the Strategic Plan, reviewing the Dashboard and noting the following:

- No tactics are in a "red" status this quarter.
- We are working in partnership with public schools on the high school remediation initiative known as CCRG (Career and College Ready Graduates). Through ongoing communication, the State Board of Education is supporting forward movement on this initiative. We now have a path forward for pilots this spring and additional pilot programs in the fall.
- 23 of 29 tactics are either in a "green" status (18) or have already been implemented (5).
- The Senior Team reviews the Dashboard on a quarterly basis, which ensures constant monitoring and progress documentation.

Finish First NC Initiative

Dr. Matt Meyer of the System Office discussed the Finish First NC tool developed by Wake Technical Community College (Wake Tech), which identifies students that have completed enough credits to earn a credential, or are very close to earning a credential, to follow up with those students to encourage credential completion. We are working with Wake Tech to scale the tool, implementing it systemwide through John M. Belk Foundation and Lumina Foundation grants. Dr. Meyer further pointed out:

- 22 colleges now have the Finish First NC tool.
- Nearly 100 thousand students have been identified as "near completers" (typically one semester away from a credential) and close to 30 thousand identified as completers.
- The goal is to have Finish First NC implemented at 40-50 colleges by this time next year.
- The Finish First NC team of Wake Tech staff of two has grown to a staff of four by way of grant funding.
- Dr. Meyer recently observed implementation of the tool at Sandhills Community College; of 4,000 records that were evaluated 432 students were immediately identified as completers.

- Because we partnered with the UNC System on the Lumina Grant, UNC seeks to pilot it at NC Central University working with Durham Technical Community College.

Student Services Leadership Academy Project/Update on Disability Services Scan

Dr. J.W. Kelley reported, reminding the Committee that three years ago the NCACCP recognized a need for professional development and succession planning for financial aid directors leading to creation of a committee that created the Financial Aid Leadership Academy. It was determined that a need existed for similar leadership academies across multiple areas such as College Access Leadership Academy (for admissions officers and registrars) and Chief Student Development Administrators Leadership Academy (for future student services vice presidents and deans). An advising academy is anticipated for next fall in partnership with the Student Success Center. A Disability Services Leadership Academy will begin next month at the direction of the System Office's Dr. Trudie Hughes and will be primarily conducted online.

Andrea Poole added that the State Board allocated up to \$25,000 from state board reserves for a contract for a study of services to students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. A company has been contracted as of the week of October 7 to look at gaps in student services and programs, and how to leverage and maximize Medicaid funds through local management entities that may be able to pay for some tuition costs. Dr. Hughes will be working with the contractor to do a scan of the system. This study should take approximately six months.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

There being no other business, Mr. Twiddy asked for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Powell made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Rose and passed unanimously without discussion, and the Committee adjourned at 1:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Barretto
Recording Secretary