

MINUTES
State Board of Community Colleges
PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
Thursday, January 17, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sam Powell, Chair	Toni Formato	Bobby Irwin
Candler Willis, Vice Chair*	William Holder	Bob Stephens

ABSENT MEMBERS:

Ernest Pearson

*attended via phone

SYSTEM OFFICE STAFF AND OTHERS:

Lisa Chapman	Lisa Eads	Dorothy Strickland
Alexandra Doles	Hilmi Lahoud	Q. Shanté Martin
Wesley Beddard	Arbony Cooper	Peter Hans
Margaret Robertson	Lori Byrd	Brian Long

WELCOME AND ETHICS STATEMENT: Dr. Powell called the meeting to order at 1:47pm in the Caswell Building, Innovation Station. Roll was taken and there was a quorum. Dr. Powell read the Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Statement and asked if there were any known conflicts. None were noted.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Dr. Powell requested a motion to approve the January 17, 2019 agenda. Mr. Holder made a motion to approve the agenda and Dr. Willis seconded the motion. The agenda was unanimously approved by the committee. The Programs Committee was notified of Ms. Jennifer Frazelle's and Ms. Renee Batts' retirement. Dr. Lisa Eads and Ms. Lori Byrd were introduced as their replacements to the Programs Committee.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Dr. Powell requested a motion to approve the November 15, 2018 minutes. Mr. Irwin made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Holder seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved by the committee.

FOR FUTURE ACTION:

Progress on the Implementation of the Career and College Ready Graduates Program (Attachment PROG 01)

Dr. Chapman reviewed this item. This is an annual, joint report to the Legislative Oversight Committee. Some of the key concerns include limited progress made on inclusion of additional secondary partners for the statewide roll-out place and the number of leadership transitions at the Department of Public Instruction (DPI).

Mr. Holder noted that there were ten colleges that have continued their programs and Mr. Stephens asked if any of the discontinued programs are due to financial reasons. Costs may contribute to K-12

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participation concerns, but CCRG is still struggling with definitive roll-out being effectively communicated from state agency.

Dr. Powell asked if the System Office could provide any idea of how this program is being received in the high schools and if there is a positive reaction from the communities. In general, as a System-wide conversation, it is too early to tell as the participants are all volunteers but those who have engaged at the college- and LEA-level have had very positive responses. Those who are still wary of the program are those who have questions that are not getting communication. The committee also discussed who owns responsibility for College and Career Readiness.

Mr. Holder followed up asking about high school students who need remedial help and the comparison to other states. NC has been working on this project since 2009 like many other states. Among other changes, NC Community College System refined its assessment and placement process to ensure better alignment with readiness for college gateway courses in mathematics and English. In addition, what is taught in high school and what is needed for successful completion of those same college courses needs to be better aligned. That is what Career and College Graduate Readiness work is addressing.

Ms. Formato asked if this program assists home schooled students. Dr. Eads stated that, in the Career and College Program, home schooled students are the highest portion of students in that program as this program has more schedule flexibility and that many of these students can complete an Associate Degree while gaining their high school diploma. There are many opportunities for home schooled and traditionally-schooled students to participate in the CCP program.

Mr. Irwin asked if these courses are in response to a long history of high school students not being prepared for college-level courses, particularly math, and how can higher-education institutions help and correct this issue. Dr. Powell replied that there are counselors that work with students and are helping students choose the best courses, programs, and pathways for their future plans and goals. Students come to the community colleges needing remediation courses or lacking certain classes to complete their desired degree. The goal is to have these conversations early in their high school career and have students come to the colleges with the necessary credentials and GPAs to enroll in courses and programs without delay.

Mr. Holder asked if students need to pay for the remediation classes and if the payment is out-of-pocket. Yes, which is why the desire is to have these issues addressed in the high schools so that they do not have this additional barrier when enrolling in colleges and universities.

The plan is to have this program fully implemented across the state by 2022.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

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Cooperative Innovative High Schools Applications (Attachment PROG 02)

Dr. Chapman reviewed this item. All documents were in order.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

FOR ACTION

Appeals for Award of the North Carolina Title II Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA)
(Attachment PROG 03)

Dr. Chapman and General Counsel Martin reviewed this item. Prior to this past year, these funds were allocated rather than competed. After the legislation change, the Title II office was required to compete the funds for any and all providers who provide adult education among the community colleges and community-based organizations and to develop the RFP, evaluation process, funding model, and appeals process. Following the award process, an appeal process was implemented where some of the community colleges and community-based organizations communicated with the Title II officer and, if unsatisfied, requested to appeal the decision in an Appeals Hearing. The original Appeal Hearings were scheduled in September but were rescheduled because one of the expert reviewers was unable to participate at the last minute due to a health emergency and because of the impacts of Hurricane Florence. The Appeals Hearings were held in December 2019 to ensure that every provider had ample opportunity to have due process.

Dr. Willis asked if this was the same item that was passed early last year about evaluating the success of the providers and distributing funds to the successful providers and limiting the funding cut to providers to 15%. These are the same funds and there was some external legislation that also provided mitigation funding. Dr. Willis asked whether this new process answers the philosophical question of whether this is being administered for the benefit of the students or for the benefit of the providers. The question isn't simply if the organizations were competitive or not but also, if they were competitive, does the model that distributes the funds address this. The distribution of funds was based on their success ratios. The state of North Carolina has federal requirements to meet a "projected benchmark of success" and each of the providers contribute to that benchmark. If the System does not meet that benchmark, it could jeopardize future federal dollars, Title II and other federal funding, that come to North Carolina.

General Counsel Martin reviewed the Appeals process. The Review Panel's purpose was to provide recommendations to the State Board of Community Colleges if the decisions should be overturned or upheld based on three very finite and specific standards as adopted by the State Board of Community Colleges: (1) whether the College and Career Readiness (CCR) team failed to follow the evaluation of the award process; (2) whether there was unlawful discrimination; or (3) whether there was alleged bias. The review panel consulted, deliberated, and provided recommendations to the Board for review.

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Mr. Holder asked if one of the criteria was whether a program was successful or not in the Appeals process. When the evaluators evaluated the RFPs, the evaluators had specific criteria to look at those success measures that the applicants provided, which included whether they were successful and if they were applying the best practice strategies that are required by the Title II funding. The Appeals step was not whether they agreed with how well the evaluators determined the providers' success; rather, it was whether there was unfair bias in the process and if the process was followed. Appeals are not reevaluating the underlying substance as the CCR Office at the System Office has that responsibility to make that determination. The Appeals process is to make sure that, procedurally, there is nothing unfair about the process.

Mr. Irwin asked if the same three people reviewed all of the appeals. The Review Panel had the same three people to review all of the cases, and they were not connected to any of the providers or the System Office. Mr. Irwin followed asking if the votes were always unanimous on the Review Panel. The panel was in isolation during the deliberation process so General Counsel Martin was not privy to those details. The recommendations in the agenda item were submitted by the Review Panel. Dr. Willis asked if any of the panel felt strongly enough to submit a Minority report dissenting from the majority opinion. The panel collectively submitted one report for all of the cases with their recommendations.

Ms. Martin explained that the general claims were of bias and not following the process. These claims were more that the providers were unhappy with how the process was done rather than an actual bias or not following the process. The processes were listed in the RFP, but the providers were disagreeing with specifics in the process such as being unable to see the scores their RFPs received or that the names of the RFP reviewers were not provided. Mr. Irwin asked if every RFP was given the same standards and scored on the same process. Yes, these same standards were used for all.

Mr. Stephens asked if the State Board is being asked to approve what the Review Panel did during the Appeals process and raised concerns on whether the State Board is in the position to do this as members of the State Board were not in the room during this process. This is the process that the State Board designated in the State Board Code. Dr. Willis stated that in every case, the Review Panel stated that providers failed to show that there was bias and that, unless the State Board has a reason to disagree with these recommendations, it would be up to the State Board to state their agreement with these decisions. General Counsel Martin clarified that staff was presenting information to the Review Panel, who tend to be familiar with the subject matter in their states or at the Department of Public Instruction. The State Board tasked these members to review the documentation and information and listen to the evidence at the hearing. The State Board developed a process stating that they entrusted these professionals to make their recommendations, provide a summary what the providers and CCR staff said, and what their determination was.

Mr. Stephens brought the committee's attention to Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College's appeal case and the following statement: "AB Tech has not provided sufficient evidence that NCCCS failed to follow the evaluation process." Mr. Stephens asked how the State Board can verify this information as the State Board is being asked to state that this is correct. Dr. Willis stated that the

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State Board is being asked if the Board has confidence in the appeal process and in those on the panel that heard the appeals and has no reason to dispute the recommendations, not that the Board has reviewed every case "line-by-line". Dr. Powell stated that the State Board established a process that had an independent panel that provided their recommendations. General Counsel Martin stated that once the State Board makes its decision, the next step would be to file some type of petition in court outside of this office.

Mr. Irwin asked if General Counsel Martin was happy with the way the process was completed. General Counsel Martin stated that the process completed by the Review Panel, as decided by the process developed by the State Board of Community Colleges, was followed, with the exception of the timeline due to impacts of external forces. Part of that process that was approved by the State Board was that the State Board would have a Review Panel, which would consist of external parties, would listen to the appeals and make the recommendations rather than the State Board members listening to the testimonies and making the final decisions.

Mr. Stephens asked for clarification on whether the Board is being asked whether they agree or disagree with the process or if they are being asked whether they agree or disagree with the Review Panel when they denied the appeals based on the three standards for appeals. The State Board is not agreeing or disagreeing with the findings; they are agreeing or disagreeing on whether the process was followed. General Counsel Martin read the following from the language in the Code revision: "The Review Panel shall make a final recommendation to the SBCC for the SBCC's consideration at the next regularly scheduled meeting. The Review Panel's recommendation shall specify whether the appealing party's appeal should be upheld or denied based upon the standards listed. The SBCC's evaluation of the Review Panel's recommendation shall be limited to the standard of review specified...and the SBCC's decision is the final agency decision."

On a motion made by Mr. Irwin, seconded by Dr. Willis, PROG 03 was approved for the "For Action" agenda at their meeting on January 18, 2019. The motion was approved by voice vote with a dissenting vote by Mr. Bob Stephens.

Additions to Special Curriculum Program Application List (Attachment PROG 04) *

- State Board of Community Colleges
 - Mechatronics Engineering Technology (A40350)

Dr. Chapman reviewed this item.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

On a motion made by Mr. Holder, seconded by Mr. Stephens, PROG 04 was approved for the "For Action" agenda at their meeting on January 18, 2019.

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Curriculum Program Application (Attachment PROG 05) [CA]

- South Piedmont Community College
 - Associate in Engineering (A10500)

Dr. Chapman reviewed this item. All documents were in order.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

Curriculum Program Application – Fast Track for Action (Attachment PROG 06) [CA]

- Isothermal Community College
 - Equine (A15270)
- Randolph Community College
 - Agribusiness Technology (15100)

Dr. Chapman reviewed this item. All documents were in order.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

Combined Course Library – Continuing Education (Attachment PROG 07) [CA]

- New Course Approvals, Modifications, and Tier Designations
 - New Course Approval – NCCCS/NC Forest Service
 - Wildland Fire Suppression (WLF-2208)
 - Chainsaw Safety for Fire Depts (WLF-2305)
 - Wildland Red Card Trng Block (WLF-3000)
 - New Course Approval – NCCCS/IIANC
 - Property and Casualty Insurance (INS-3129)
 - New Course Approval – NCCCS/Real Estate Commission
 - Post 303 – NC Law, Rules & Legal Concepts (RLS-3706)
 - Course Modification – NCCCS/NC Forest Service
 - Wildland Firefighter Type 1 (WLF-2202)
 - Course Modification – NCCCS/Carolina Energy Workforce Consortium
 - Electric Linework (ELS-3018)

Dr. Chapman reviewed this item. All documents were in order.

Mr. Holder asked if students are guaranteed a job after completing the Electric Linework program. The students are not guaranteed a job and the colleges have 90% hiring rate. All students receive an offer, but it is up to the student if they accept those offers. Mr. Holder inquired about the hiring salary. Starting pay is about \$40,000 per year but has the potential to reach \$80,000-90,000 in five years.

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Courses of Instruction - Captive/Co-opted Groups (Attachment PROG 08) [CA]

- South Piedmont Community College – Anson Correctional Institution (Previously Lanesboro)
 - HRD-4100 Working Smart
 - (Working Smart)
- Wake Technical Community College – NC Correctional Institution for Women
 - HRD-3008 Financial Literacy
 - (Financial Literacy)
- Wake Technical Community College – Wake Correctional Center
 - TCT-3105 Broadband Communications
 - (Introduction to Networking Telecommunications)

Dr. Chapman reviewed this item. All documents were in order.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

On a motion made by Dr. Willis, seconded by Mr. Holder, PROG 05-09 were approved for the “For Action” agenda and recommending approval at their meeting on January 18, 2019.

FOR INFORMATION

Programs Committee Agenda Items

Three-Year Accountability Reports (Attachment PROG 09)

Dr. Chapman reviewed the item.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

Curriculum Program Applications as Approved by the System President (Attachment PROG 10)

- Isothermal Community College
 - Human Resources Technology/Animal-Assisted Interactions (A4528F)
- Martin Community College
 - Entrepreneurship (A25490)
- Wake Technical Community College
 - Human Services Technology/Gerontology (A4538B)

Dr. Chapman reviewed the item.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

Curriculum Program Terminations as Approved by the System President (Attachment PROG 11)

- Gaston College
 - Polysomnography (A45670)
- Piedmont Community College

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- Healthcare Business Informatics
- Health Care Technology (Certificate) (C45350)
- Health Service: Therapeutic and Diagnostic Services
 - Medical Assisting (D45920)
 - Nurse Aid (D45970)
 - Phlebotomy (D45950)
 - Phlebotomy (Certificate) (C45600)
- Tri-County Community College
 - School-Age Care (Certificate) (C55450)

Dr. Chapman reviewed the item.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

Finance Committee Information Items

Additional Allocation for Title II Adult Education and Family Literacy Act Providers (Attachment FC 02)

Dr. Chapman reviewed the item.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

State Board Reserve and Perkins Funding for Student Services Academies (Attachment FC 03)

Dr. Chapman reviewed the item.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

Allocation for Finish First (Attachment FC 05)

Dr. Chapman reviewed the item.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

Allocation for Minority Male Success Initiative (Attachment FC 06)

Dr. Chapman reviewed the item.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

Title II Funding for Professional Development and Technical Assistance (Attachment FC 07)

Dr. Chapman reviewed the item.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

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Allocation for Tobacco Trust Fund Commission Grant (Attachment FC 08)

Dr. Chapman reviewed the item.

The committee had no questions or concerns.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 pm on a motion by Mr. Holder, seconded by Mr. Stephens, and approved via voice vote.

Recording Secretary
Alexandra Doles