

Meeting Notes – FINAL – APPROVED WITH CHANGES 10-1-09
Bitterroot College Steering Committee Meeting
2:00 PM, Wednesday, May 20, 2009
Human Resource Council Building Conference Room
Hamilton, Montana

Committee Members Present:

- Sharon Alexander
- Patricia Meakin
- Mary Moe
- Rick O'Brien
- John Robinson
- Dixie Stark
- Lynn Stocking

Committee Members excused:

- Katelyn Andersen
- Royce Engstrom
- Patti Furniss
- Chuck Jenson

Also Present:

Rama Baikadi	Frank Laurence	Chuck Rubik
Victoria Clark	Barb Lucas	Kathy Rubik
Anita Driscoll	Jim Olsen	Mike Spreadbury
Rep. Bob Lake	Marilyn Sanders	Rep. Ron Stoker

1. Minutes from April 28 meeting

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as presented.

2. Student representative for steering committee

The subcommittee will bring a recommendation to the next steering committee after meeting to consider the following:

- The third non-traditional student representative application, submitted by email
- Whether to:
 - Select a student for the position among the three applications
 - split the position between two students
 - let any students who want to be involved form a subcommittee among themselves and send one representative to each meeting

3. Fall 2009 Offerings

Lynn Stocking took the draft of course offerings from the previous steering committee meeting and considered the likely needs of current HHEC and future students, including an accounting track and transferability for general education requirements within the Montana University System.

The instructors for the courses will be local where available, either UM/COT faculty/instructors who live in the valley or other instructors/faculty from Missoula.

Although Frank Laurence introduced a separate list of courses for fall and spring which were heard by the Steering Committee, the committee ultimately voted to approve the slate of courses as prepared by Lynn Stocking. The list will be published as soon as possible.

4. Update on the Search for the Interim Director

Sharon Alexander reminded the committee that the search close date is May 22, 2009. The subcommittee has developed screening criteria and will look at each application the week of May 25th. The search committee will meet the week of June 1st to discuss each candidate and develop interview questions. Telephone interviews will likely take place the week of June 8th, while face-to-face interviews with the Steering Committee will likely happen the week of June 15th. The target start date for the interim director is July 6th.

The position posting has been limited to Western Montana newspapers, but the position is also listed online and is therefore available to applicants nationwide.

5. Immediate Workforce training opportunities

Lynn Stocking provided a draft version of a flyer for summer courses cosponsored by the Hamilton High School and UM College of Technology.

- The computer courses, Basic Computers and Intro to QuickBooks, are to be held at HHS, and will hopefully be the start of a long-range collaboration.
- A Certified Nursing Assistant training course will also be offered this summer, either in the Bitterroot Valley or at the UM COT Nursing Lab. A Nursing Instructor from COT currently lives in the valley and will be available to teach the course this summer.
- A Basic Machining course is also a possibility, pending location and an instructor. Representative Stoker mentioned that the Stevensville airport has a machining site.

Sharon Alexander and Lynn Stocking will make sure the courses are advertised online. Dixie Stark advised posting them on the high school websites as well.

6. OCHE report from Mary Moe

The Taking Stock conference, regarding 2 year education, will take place in Great Falls May 26-27, 2009. Tim and Patricia will attend, and will meet with folks from community, tribal, and extension colleges across the state.

OCHE is also working on responding to legislative appropriation for integrated information. It will enable students to more easily transfer between institutions.

Mary also welcomes the committee's feedback on the Regents policy audit of 2 year education, under the Workforce/Dev 2 year education link.

7. Public Comment

Representative Lake mentioned that he's on the Montana Legislature's Education and Local Government Interim Committee, and that the committee will be assigned to studies regarding the future of 2 year education in Montana. The common course numbering system was one priority, and having common goals is another. He welcomes input from the BCSC.