College!NOW Implementation Team Meeting Notes
May 30, 2013
9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.


TAACCCT Consortium Grant-Introduction
John-
- SGA focus needs to be on stackable credentials leading to employment.
  - Advanced manufacturing
  - Entrepreneurship
- Developmental math is a choke point for our programs and students.
- CDL needs are not diminishing in the near future and will be a grant piece.
  - Related is diesel technology
  - Energy technology and the opportunity to align the AAS better with industry.
  - Connect that to developing a statewide advisory group.
  - The last piece is entrepreneurship, especially in eastern Montana, which serves the oil and gas industry.
- Navigators.
- SWIB is excited about using the national readiness certification as the baseline for soft skill development.

Curriculum
- John-Department of Labor wants to see coordination and collaboration, not silos.
- Existing curriculum can be augmented or replaced.
  - Nina-DOL wants to transform, not just add-on, to existing curriculum, e.g., change semester-long programs to work better for all students; this cannot look like a generic proposal or it will not be funded.
  - DOL wants a more sustainable, ongoing relationship with industry; a workforce intelligence function; tech partnerships that bring industries, colleges, and the workforce system to the same table.
  - The lead college needs a training type of position to build the relationships.
- Welding is a large need across the state.
- Create a common, aligned welding curriculum, using AWS as the baseline, that students can quickly complete; such a curriculum strengthens the grant.
- CWB add-on component.
- Three stacks, each with a 9- to 12-week completion period, leading to and Applied Science certificate; another stack would be welding fabrication.
  - Two student cohorts can be taken through the 9-12 weeks simultaneously.
  - Susan- spoke with a faculty member who said 3 to 4 weeks need to be hands-on in a minimum 15-week program.
  - 60% online and 40% hands-on.
Welding is aligned to AWS that cannot be shortened; however, advanced manufacturing period can be shrunk.
- We can tailor coursework to the AWS and individual employer needs of the region.
- Which consortium members could benefit from onsite labs?
- Welding and advanced manufacturing tracks have different foundations.
- John Garic-Missoula has large fabrication and welding labs that are fully engaged, with one faculty already experiencing heavy workload.
  - Do we have enough capacity given current faculty loads?
- Jane- This grant will provide additional faculty and equipment.
- CWB has conducted a gap analysis.
- Great Falls College has expansion plans.
- Daniel-expressed concern about writing elements into the grant that are hard to accomplish.
- John- Campuses are not being pressured to be involved.

**Amitrol**
- We can possibly use Amitrol’s extensive, simulated, and interactive online curriculum and make it available to any campuses who want to participate, using a model similar to that of the HIT program that is revenue sharing and mutually positive for all campuses.
- Several campuses together would have sufficient student numbers.
  - City, Great Falls and Helena Colleges, and MSU Northern, have Amitrol units.
  - City College has used 6-7 excellent PLCs.
  - The sustainable energy piece has additions that are valuable to industry.
  - Basic safety trainers are also provided as part of the price.

**Mobile Labs**
Barry-Mobile labs providing testing and assessment would be very helpful for Missoula College.

**Faculty Facilitators**
Faculty facilitator will mentor students through the process in a non-traditional role with students.

**Data Collection/Evaluation**
- It is critical to show sustainable data collection.
- Nina-DOL wants real-time evaluation and secondary information that is regularly collected and of valuable service to the state.
- Burning Glass-
  - Collects real-time information for various periods that can be broken down by job title, county, types of certificates/degrees, and which employer posted the ad; e.g., welding skills appear in high number in job ads not specifically looking for welders.
  - Five levels of BG costing $8000 per year per school.
  - Temporary access and tutorial are provided so people can experiment with BG.

**Business/Industry Commitment**
Nina-DOL wants true commitment from employers indicating: they value what the colleges are doing, will provide the equipment, expand on-the-job training, offer internships and apprenticeships, and hire the graduates, even preferentially.
- John-has spoken with Heather Lockland in the office of Senator Baucus.
- John-Each campus needs that signed commitment to write the proposal.
- Jeri sent out the form letter with a list of supports that businesses can consider providing and a place for them to attach their .jpg electronic signature.
- Colleges can submit combined pages of commitments and one signature page for all consortium partners.
  - Bob-The commitments are just a good faith projection, “As my business needs employees, I will hire your people.” The industry does not need to give a number of projected hires.
Next Steps

- John has blocked the time to help make the industry calls to gain their commitment; June 4th is the deadline.
- John will also speak with Montana Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) Commissioner Pam Bucy about sector partners and matching students with workplace learning opportunities.
- Kali-Contact WIA Program Supervisor Suzanne Ferguson and Connie Keeson.
- Jeri and Matt will contact each campus.
- Jeri will follow-up requesting by-activity and overall budget information.
- White paper will be emailed out today.
- Flesh out the role of navigators in the next few days.
- Work plans are to be fleshed out by June 13th.