TAACCCT Steering Committee Call
May 24, 2013

Attendees: John Cech, Brad Eldredge, David Hall, Mel Lehmann, Pam Parsons, Jeri Pullum, Matt Springer, Pam Watson, and Susan Wolff.

Campus Calls
Calls made to all the campuses, except Highlands College.
- Ensured strategies are uniform.
- Not much overreach in what campuses want to do; campuses are being reasonable about their intentions.

Key Developments
- Partnerships with Montana Department of Labor and Industry
- Meetings with One-Stop Centers - all are onboard.
- Emporium Model:
  - Tribal colleges, Missoula College, and NSU Northern are interested.
- Manufacturing and welding - different options are available; which areas are the focus for the grant?
- Amatrol –
  - This is a trades-oriented company.
  - Its curriculum is online and interactive, a quality product that includes electronics and upper-end manufacturing, presented in modules.
  - Montana can re-build using these modules.
  - Possibly create testing centers.
  - Students participating online could coordinate to travel to testing centers to be tested by faculty.
  - Amatrol has simulators. Currently, Helena College, Great Falls College, and Northern use Amitrol simulators.
  - Curriculum library cost is $27,000/year cost; we could share the cost across the system.
  - Questions:
    - What about faculty credit hours?
    - The relationship with faculty will change.
    - Guide the cohort through the curriculum in a bigger “classroom.”
    - Provide one faculty leader, guide, or mentor per student cohort.
  - Would take 200 involved students to support the curriculum.
  - Campuses are open to this opportunity, as well as to more traditional opportunities.
- Campuses are open to CDLs, energy/safety/non-credit courses.
- MSU Northern Diesel is almost all online; two-year automotive-diesel.

Two-year energy track AAS does not quite meet employers’ needs, may need some re-alignment.
- City and Missoula Colleges are especially open to tweak their programs to align them.
- This could be easily offered, and campuses are open to the conversation.
- Possibly add endorsement to the AS.
- Missoula College has always been more generalist.

Coaching -
- ??.
- Parameters – work with a select group of 500 students across the system
- Seven colleges are interested in the coaching track:
  - Inside Track wants to meet with that group.
  - The cost across three years is $1.5 million.
  - Inside Track also has two grant writers on staff solely dedicated to this.

Fabrication lab – only three colleges are interested.
Whatever initiative is taken, it needs to be recognized by industry.

Thirteen institutions have responded with interest.

- Susan - Will the other consortium members be responsible for each of the 13 institutions’ deliverables, or does each campus rise/fall on its own?
  - John-Susan has a good point: is there any way to gauge the strength or weakness of a potential member?
  - Mel - Not really; Clackamas College struggled to find someone to manage.
- Each campus needs regional industry commitments as a pre-condition for consortium participation or they will not be included.
  - This may lead to an elimination process.
  - John – If we limit membership to five colleges, how does that affect competitiveness?
    - Can students who are not on the consortium campuses, can they still be served by these initiatives?
    - They could, if the Amatrol package were put together: these would be treated as satellite campuses.
    - This would also deal with some of the performance issues.

**Action:** We need this final version electronically and quickly; Jeri has it electronically.

**Core five interests** –

- Little Bighorn College is interested in the workforce development piece (which is hard to implement unless we work with DLI); the Emporium model; math lab; welding; oil and gas; non-credit and energy tech; and entrepreneurship.
- Miles Community College is interested in expanding CDLs and oil/gas.
- Highlands College is interested in oil/gas.
- Fort Peck College – interest in the Emporium model, welding, machining, CDL, and diesel.
- Bitterroot College – would like to create a CDL; a local trucking company is interested in the College taking over.
- Gallatin – would like the opportunity for a mobile lab.
- Northern - Diesel technitians
- Helena College – wants to expand what they already have in place, like diesel and energy-type programs; welding and fabrication tracks leading to Boeing jobs; and advanced manufacturing.
- Colleges are expressing more interest in expansion, not creation.

What we would take away from the colleges is traditional programming, chance of renovation, and having equipment on their own campuses.

What about when grant ends? E.g., how will hiring new faculty, etc., be sustained?

John-If we reduce the number of colleges, will the amount that we ask for be reduced?

The number of students that we report has to be the smaller number of those interested in participating in this.

- The best strategy is to ask each college to estimate those numbers in grant years 1, 2, and 3.
- Each participating school would have to provide those metrics.

**Steps (John) -**

- GFC and FVCC are the two leaders in manufacturing; Northern -diesel; City College - oil and gas; Missoula College - alternative energy, Helena College – advanced manufacturing.
  - Let these institutions know they need employer signatures.
- Let other campuses know we are considering whether to include them, and that hinges on their ability to show firm employer commitment.
• Will we need all 13 institutions to get their developmental ed numbers at the same time?
• Ameliorate the need to show large numbers in the grant by explaining what Montana is all about.
• We should include a tribal college, like Fort Peck.
• What is the number of consortium members - how many are too many?
  o How important is the number?
  o John - Are we developing an effective model? Is streamlining better?
• A systemic approach must include not giving campuses full rein to do whatever they want to do.
• Employer commitments:
  o Some employers with whom we have worked will not be committing to a very large pool of students/potential employees: is that acceptable?
  ✓ This is the challenge in Montana: our employers are smaller businesses.
  ✓ The need to show at least that the institution has the industry commitments to make the program sustainable.
• For this grant, DoL just wants to see graduates get a job, not necessarily their progression through jobs after that point.
• Show multiple on/off ramps in/out of education.
• Does it help to indicate in the grant that we are aligned with the Governor and Board of Regents?
• Employment score cards.
• OCHE Legal needs to get back to the Steering Committee about evaluation questions.
• Third-party evaluator: MPR Associates, based in Berkeley, CA.
• Tuesday, 5/28, set up a conference call with consultants.
• Send all 13 colleges a letter.