
Absent: Cindra Stahl, Tara Veazey, Scott Whittenburg, Barbara Wagner, Dianne Linder, Dick Brown,

John
- A decision needs to be made regarding nursing, and come to a conclusion quickly for a pathway (if any)
- Come to a solid conclusion regarding strategies that will be proposed to follow

Nina:
- I BEST model being used at Flathead Valley Community College; utilizes contextualized remediation; takes two years to show results
- Smart Thinking Tutoring
  - May be difficult and labor intensive
  - Possibly incorporate with Gates Foundation and Washington Foundation Grants

Kris:
- Went to Minnesota and spent time with community colleges and four year partners
  - Similar to the RIBN program in North Carolina
  - Looked at curriculum model and logistics (staffing, curriculum design, student numbers)
    - With this information and the information received from North Carolina, we could develop a draft budget for use in Montana
    - North Carolina has more four year partners and have constructed a regional model (major difference from Minnesota)-rural campuses involved
      - Same kind of conceptual framework and philosophy for curriculum
      - Includes general education courses, students can then take an assessment or continue onto baccalaureate level

Group discussion/comments:
- With TAACCCT Grants, we need to be able to show results over the course of the program
If we are going to use this model, can we construct it in a way to show results? Could we reconstruct curriculum and count ASRN, RN, and BSN as part of this program?

This may be a concern because we are to be targeting adults.

- Does this program offer an option for those who are below RN to move up?
  - Acceptable if considering those entry level positions too (majority are not high school students, they are adults that enter the program).

- Great Falls College is talking with Bozeman to setup clinicals in Great Falls—they feel this may be an accelerated pathway option for students.

- LPN option is not a part of the Minnesota model as there is not a need for practical nurses there.
  - There is a need for practical nurses (LPNs) here in Montana.

- Timelines: 3 years to implement program, 4th year is evaluation to produce results.
  - First enrollments are expected 18 months after the grant is awarded.
  - Expectation that there would be a significant number of students placed.

- Department of Labor looked at two year colleges for a reason—students receiving credentials that can be built on later.

- Would we be smarter to reach out to ASRNs and really improve RN to BSN bridge programs?
  - It will not change status, BSNs are still RNs.

- To meet objective of the TAACCCT Grant, we need to focus on entry level.
  - Could we build up the base of those who have CNA and LPN experience because there is a huge need for CNAs and LPNs?
  - Suggestion posed to draft up a plan to see if it can work.
    - Kris will complete the draft to see if our plan fits in the scope of the grant.
  - Suggestion posed to get advice from Matt Springer since he is currently involved in a TAACCCT Grant.

- Do our ideas fit within the scope of the SGA? Will our ideas get us points when our grant proposal is read?

- Schedule an in-person meeting in the next week or so to get a good grasp on this.
  - May 8th: 9:00-1:00?? Invite Matt Springer??

- Name of project? Heath CARE (Community Access to Rural Education).
  - Group agrees with Annie’s suggestion for the name.

- Nina talked with Highlands College and they want to start a Rad Tech Program.
  - Nina sent template to John Garic.
  - Need to pull in Montana Tech in conjunction with Highlands College.

- Campuses need to fill in checkbox for strategies they are willing to do.

- Apprenticeship a part of the grant.
  - Annie have the appropriate folks working on a description of the apprenticeship piece, what it would look like, what licensing board would have to approve it.