

THE INTERCOLLEGE RELATIONS COMMISSION
A COMMISSION OF THE WASHINGTON COUNCIL



for High School-College Relations, Inc.
www.washingtoncouncil.org

INTERCOLLEGE RELATIONS COMMISSION
Executive Summary of Meeting Minutes
Fall Meeting 2009
October 8-9, Central Washington University

The Executive Summary

To better facilitate communication of the ICRC's meetings and the important inter-institutional issues discussed and addressed during the meetings, the ICRC Executive Committee will provide an executive summary to all participating ICRC institutions. The executive summary represents an abbreviated version of the general meeting minutes and highlights the most salient issues that arise during the fall and spring meetings. ICRC representatives will be responsible for distributing the executive summary to senior administrators, faculty organizations, and interested others on their respective campuses. If a more detailed account is desired, the ICRC Executive Committee provides full meeting minutes on the ICRC website at: www.washingtoncouncil.org/icrc.htm.

The ICRC Executive Committee – 2009-10

Chair – Susan Poch, Washington State University, poch@wsu.edu

Vice Chair – Jeanne Gaffney, Western Washington University, jeanne.gaffney@wwu.edu

Secretary/Treasurer – Debbie Crouch, Seattle Pacific University, dcrouch@spu.edu

Member at Large—Vicki Howell Williams, Pierce Community College, vwilliam@pierce.ctc.edu

Past Chair – Mike Brandstetter, Bates Technical College, mbrandstetter@bates.ctc.edu

Key Issues, Reports and Discussions

Transfer Statement Work Group – Jim West and Susan Poch

- Jim West distributed copies of the transfer students' rights and responsibilities document the Transfer Statement Workgroup helped create. The document is final and institutions should post it to institutional websites and/or make it available to students by winter 2010.
- Jim sent us (via the listserv) a list of 32 transfer FAQs the HEC Board has compiled. Contact Jim if you have suggestions for additional questions. The document will be available on the HEC Board website.

Ongoing Articulation Review (OAR) Committee—Nancy Mullane

OAR has completed the assessment of YCC but has not yet written the report. The other schools to be reviewed this year are Tacoma Community College, Bellevue College, Centralia College, Cascadia Community College, and South Puget Sound Community College.

Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB)—Jim West

- The HEC Board, current executive director, Anne Daly, is stepping down and the agency will be looking for a replacement.

If you have potential applicants for the executive director position, let Jim know.

- The HEC Board is undergoing a system design planning process and they are to deliver a proposal to the legislature on December 1st.
- There's a new FAQ document for Running Start students on the SBCTC website
- The State board is looking at a variety of ways to address financial concerns, including scholarship opportunities. Jim invited us to visit www.thewashboard.org, which will go live this fall.
- The HEC Board has been asked to serve on a committee looking at the possibility of having a portal that would be a means of accessing financial aid info, transfer info, etc.
- The "Role of Transfer in the Bachelor's Degree" study has been concluded and compiled. JAOG will review it after the HEC Board does so. It will be on the website soon.
- Surveys about the usefulness of MRPs will be sent to campuses soon. Wide participation in the survey is encouraged.

State Board for Community & Technical Colleges (SBCTC)—Scott Copeland

(A copy of the PowerPoint for this presentation is available on the ICRC website.)

- Highlights of Scott's presentation include the following:
 - There has been a sharp rise in CTC enrollments in the past year
 - Roughly 1/3 of all students in CTCs are transfer students
 - 38% of all bachelor's degree graduates attended a CTC
 - Bellevue will have a Bachelor of Applied Arts in Interior Design in January 2010
 - Columbia Basin has a new Bachelor of Applied Science in Applied Management
 - SCCC: applied Bachelors in Behavioral Science
 - A new direction: AAS degree option for students in registered apprenticeship programs, leading to transfer opportunities: Associate in Applied Science in Multi-Occupational Trades

Council of Presidents—Mike Reilly

- The HEC Board is doing a tuition study (when there's not much money for the legislature to work with, they tend to ask that studies be done)
- Another bill that may affect us all—charges all of us to work together on improving technology, saving money and using technology resources more effectively and collaboratively (Group comprised of 2-year and 4-year faculty and IT people). More use of online courses is one strategy.
- College-readiness math test: A consensus has been reached for a set-score for passing the test.
- System Design Project (mentioned earlier by Jim West). Is forcing us to take a look at how well we are doing at educating people.
 - Have the intentional changes we've made since the 80s really worked? Yes! Washington is 1st in the nation in the number of bachelor's degrees earned in relation to FTE.
 - Our state has second-highest CC enrollment in the nation.
 - Our higher ed systems are very efficient relative to the amount of funding for higher education. In all sectors of higher ed, Washington is one of the most productive, but 46th in the nation for per-student funding.
 - Washington's percentage of students earning an associate's degree and moving on to a bachelor's degree is quite low, however.

JAOG—Jane Sherman

- ICRC also asked question about which subjects should be included in Humanities and Social Sciences. JAOG believes this is not a major policy change area, so ICRC may deal with it.
- Math in the DTA. JAOG hopes that broad constituencies across campuses will give input and that this issue can be resolved by this spring.
- Engineering: JAOG investigated whether or not a specific math class should be widely available at the CCs to help students prepare for transfer.
- A subgroup of ICRC and JAOG was appointed to articulate the roles and responsibilities of the two groups and to discuss whether or not any changes need to be made to our governing documents.

Articulation and Transfer Council-Mike Flodin

- Last year ATC did NOT act to create/approve any new academic electives (this group initiates approval of additional "free" electives).
- ATC has officially been charged with maintenance of the common course numbering system. They have now served in that role for a year and will have several potential CCN courses to consider at their fall meeting.
- ATC suggested that OAR create a system through which baccalaureate institutions are reviewed on a regular basis regarding compliance with ICRC agreements, just as the 2-year schools are regularly reviewed.

Baccalaureate Institution Reports

Members from the four-year schools reported on fall enrollment, program changes, and any changes to admissions deadlines and/or processes.

ICRC Executive Committee Report

- ICRC Executive Committee and OAR chair will meet with the Articulation and Transfer Council at ATC's winter meeting to gather information to help ICRC decide whether to have the entire ICRC membership meet jointly with ATC for a future meeting.
- A new standing agenda item at ICRC's spring meetings will be any concerns related to CCN; concerns can then be relayed to ATC.
- In light of the creation of new bodies such as JAOG, the ICRC membership engaged in a discussion about the evolution of ICRC, considering questions such as "From where have we come and what is our role?" The discussion resulted in suggested changes to the ICRC Handbook to more accurately reflect our current role.

Communication in the DTA

The group engaged in a lengthy discussion about JAOG's proposed changes to the DTA communication requirements. There was no clear consensus about how to solve the issues around this distribution requirement that were created when courses that were formerly three credits became five-credit classes. The issue will require further investigation and discussion.

Math in the DTA

Members were invited to discuss the proposed changes to the math requirement in the DTA. While there were slightly more members voting for the proposal, there was definitely no consensus around the issue. Members are encouraged to talk to academic bodies and math departments on their campuses and continue to give feedback to the ICRC executives for them to pass along to JAOG.