**MINUTES**

**Legislative Committee**

**January 20, 2022, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

**Members:** Annette Mattson (MHCC), Cathy Kemper-Pelle (RCC), **Ed Dodson** (Chemeketa CC), Chris Breitmeyer (Clatsop CC), Kate Marquez (KCC) Mark Mitsui (PCC), **Kim Morgan** (CGCC), **Laurie Chesley** (COCC), Tim Cook, (Clackamas CC), **Brett Rowlett** (LCC), **Sage Learn** (PCC), Jennifer Boehmer (LBCC), and **Lori Hall** (Clackamas CC), Rachel Pokrandt (UCC)

**OCCA Staff:** **John Wykoff**, **Morgan Cowling, Casey White-Zollman**, **Katie Archambault**, **Karen Smith**

**1. Welcome and Roll Call** Casey White-Zollman
Wykoff called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. and conducted a visual roll call, with Mattson, Kemper-Pelle, Breitmeyer, Marquez, Mitsui, Cook, Boehmer and Pokrandt absent. Apologies that the agenda referenced the meeting as being on Jan. 19 instead of the 20th.

**2**. **February Legislative Session Agenda** John Wykoff

1. **Cybersecurity Ask for Feb Session** John Wykoff
Wykoff reviewed some background on why the colleges are asking the legislature for funds related to cybersecurity, noting that education is the most targeted sector for malware attacks, and that there’s been a 300% increase in cyber attacks against colleges nationwide in the last year. Legislative ask is for $5.1 million (up to $300,000 per college) in one-time funds for training, gap analysis and resolution, additional staffing, and upgrades to systems. Colleges also need ongoing funding for staffing and for security operations center subscription. Without ongoing funds, most colleges can’t afford the subscription cost and additional staffing. Public university chief information officers got together with a couple of community college CIOs to talk about a “center of excellence” to provide service and best practices for training for higher education, K12 schools. Something like this could get folded into the larger ongoing funding piece.
2. **Future Ready Oregon proposal** John Wykoff

Governor’s workforce build. Trying to use one-time dollars to create results for underrepresented Oregonians in workforce. Request is for $200 million, with $95.5 million for leveraging existing success, including $17 million for community college career pathways and $10 million for credit for prior learning. There’s also $95.5 million for Workforce Readiness grants. Racial Justice Council really wanted to see the entire $200 million go to community organizations, so we’ve had to really start from ground zero to gain some support. Kudos to Mark Mitsui from PCC for his work to get community colleges included. Workforce Investment Board also has a proposed bill out there with similar goals but gives all of the funding to WIBs. We could not support that because it’s not appropriate as a service provider to be the holder of the entire pot of money. Their proposal/fact sheet is very misleading. Working with the governor’s office on this and to clarify its intent. Possibly going to combine both bills to better support what the governor’s office is trying to do.

1. **Changes to Oregon Promise** John Wykoff
Change the GPA requirement from 2.5 to 2.0, and double the minimum award to Pell-eligible students, as well as remove the co-pay. Our board supports getting rid of the GPA requirement all together. Oregon Promise has tended to go to students who really aren’t as low income as it was intended to support.

**3. Joint Task Force for Student Success for Underrepresented Students in Higher Education (HB 2590)** John Wykoff
Recommended priorities are Essential Needs/Services; Success & Completion for Underrepresented Students; and Work-Centered Learning (CTE, Career Pathways, etc.). These are the areas we’ve encouraged the task force to focus their efforts. There will be much more to come on this. Just found out this week that the head of the task force, Rep. Teresa Alonso Leon, has announced she is running for Congress, so changes could be coming.

**4.** **SB 551 Part-Time Faculty Healthcare Bill** (from 2021 session) John Wykoff
Very few people are signing up for it – less than 100 people. Some of the urgency on the fixes have slowed. Two major fixes we’d like to see: benefit managers should verify twice a year that faculty are eligible instead of annually; and rather than a term-by-term of eligibility to instead look at an average. Faculty credits can vary so much throughout the year, so we and the unions would rather there be an average to ensure certainty in the coverage. Vehicle for changes is likely Sen. Dembrow’s bill.

**5. LC 103** Karen Smith
Aware of bill (LC 103) Sen. Dembrow is proposing that changes requirements related to your sexual harassment policies. Adds a definition of consent and also requires colleges and universities to do a student campus climate survey at least once every two years and to analyze results and post aggregate results on their website. John and Katie were on a call last week about concerns regarding the cost to conduct the survey and analyze the results. May be a few changes but expect the proposal to come forward intact. Wykoff also mentioned that many colleges are worrying about “survey fatigue” from students having to take so many surveys.

**6.** **OHSU Nursing Proposal** John Wykoff
30-30-30 proposal of $45 million to support healthcare programs and increase learner diversity in healthcare. OHSU has asked for our support because 11 of our colleges are members of the Oregon Consortium of Nursing Education and some of these funds would support OCNE schools. However, several of our colleges who are not OCNE schools wouldn’t benefit even though they have nursing programs – would be parts of the state unserved by the proposal. OPC had a discussion concerned about this issue. Wykoff said we don’t normally oppose another agency’s budget request; worst case scenario we would say we’re neutral on the issue because of some concerns about it not supporting all community colleges. Chesley asked about staying neutral – would that be any impetus on a discussion on inclusion? Rowlett reminded that the first two years of nursing programs are the more expensive parts

**7. CTE Month 2022** Casey White-Zollman
CTE Month will be a scaled-back version this year with the short session and with the session being mostly virtual. No in-person capital visits or displays. OCCA and colleges will post about CTE programs on social media platforms at least weekly throughout the month, with a press release going to media at the beginning of the month. Wykoff is working with Rep. Reardon and Sen. Dembrow to find a day for the Community College Caucus meeting that can coincide with colleges presenting about CTE sometime in the first couple of weeks in February – trying to pin down that date soon so we can plan our presentation with the colleges. Will also be sending a weekly CTE Month e-newsletter to legislators (and board members) throughout February. Working to make sure we don’t overshadow the cybersecurity and Future Ready Oregon asks with CTE Month promotion.

7. **Good of the Order** All

Rowlett – did we get a fiscal request to business officers on if colleges don’t raise tuition or have cuts what budget implications will be? Wykoff said they’re asking the same of the universities for the past several years and yes, have asked business officers for this info. He said he and the business officers are meeting with Jim Pinkard from the HECC tomorrow to discuss this further. Focus is on equity, but questions business officers have received aren’t reflecting that as much. Wykoff has asked Dana Richardson from the universities how they’ve responded in the past. With the HECC discussion on the distribution model, these are the types of questions we’ll be getting anyway. Smith said colleges are being asked institutional data in ways that haven’t been requested before, such as scenarios for cuts that could impact local budget process if made public.

With no other business, Wykoff adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.