

**Joint Meeting of the TACTC Board of Directors  
and Legislative Steering Committee  
9:00 a.m., Friday, November 3, 2006  
Highline Community College, Building 2**

**Call to Order:** TACTC President, Jim Robinson called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

**In Attendance:**

Karen Seinfeld, Bates  
Ruthann Kurose, Bellevue  
Steve Miller, Bellevue  
Jim Cunningham, Bellingham  
Katherine Kenison, Big Bend  
Jose Veliz, Clover Park  
Wayne Martin, Columbia Basin  
Dick Van Hollebeke, Edmonds  
Jeannette Wood, Edmonds  
Gene Chase, Everett  
John Warring, Grays Harbor  
Larry Brown, Green River  
Karen Vander Ark, Highline  
Lyle Lovingfoss, Lower Columbia  
Jim Robinson, Olympic  
Don Meyer, Pierce  
Ronnie Behnke, Renton  
Frank Irigon, Renton  
Edie Nelson, Shoreline  
Debra Lisser, Skagit

Barbara Clarkson, South Puget Sound  
Dick Wadley, South Puget Sound  
Carol Landa-McVicker, Spokane  
Helen Malone, Spokane  
David Edwards, Tacoma  
Jerry Hendrickson, Walla Walla  
Jon McFarland, Walla Walla  
Lisa Parker, Yakima

**Guests:**

Jim Garrison, State Board  
Linda Kaminski, Yakima

**SBCTC Staff:**

Charlie Earl  
Chris Reykdal  
Suzy Ames  
Cindy Hough  
Holly Longo

**Welcome and Introductions:** Jim Robinson welcomed everyone and explained the purpose of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors and Legislative Steering Committee.

**Approval of Minutes:** TACTC Secretary, Wayne Martin presented the minutes from the May 18, 2006 Annual Business meeting and asked for any changes or suggestions. Don moved to accept the minutes as presented. Ronnie seconded the motion. **Motion Passed.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Debra Lisser reviewed the audit committee's report of the TACTC books. The Audit Committee did not find any significant items and had no recommendations. She also shared we are on track with the 2006-07 budget. Cindy explained the Creating Opportunities – Public Opinion Poll line item. We budgeted money from the current revenues to apply to the contract, then the rest of the money was to come out of the reserve account which does not come due until January 2008. This apparent over-run will not affect our overall budget since we are on track on most line items and under-running others.

**WACTC Report:** Linda Kaminski, WACTC president, thanked the trustees for inviting her to their meeting and for their continued support of WACTC. She reported the WACTC committee approved a \$400 expenditure to recognize the Classified Collective Bargaining Negotiators at the HRMC meeting this month. She also talked about how Common Course Numbering has received good feedback to date, largely from faculty. Some changes have already been made, for example, courses have been changed from 100 level to 200 level and several course titles have been updated. The college presidents, at their September meeting, voted to move forward with an incremental implementation to provide additional time for course naming and numbering discussions. She closed her report by reminding everyone our reason for being here is for students to succeed.

**State Board Report:** Jim Garrison, State Board Chair, thanked the trustees for all the work they do and effort they put forward. He reported the Board is developing their work agenda which includes: Advocating for the system, Washington Learns, Student Achievement Initiative, Technology Initiative, System Direction, Tuition, Evaluation of the Executive Director and the Board.

**Next Week's Election/Next Year's Session:** Chris Reykdal, SBCTC Director, reported there are two major initiatives to watch 920 Estate Tax Repeal and 933 Land Owner Reimbursement. If passed, these two initiatives have the potential of taking money away from education. There are also three races to watch; 30<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup> Districts.

**System Direction:** Charlie Earl, SBCTC Executive Director, reported there are three major themes to the system direction: 10 Year Goals, Student Success and Innovation.

The System Direction is a 10 year plan with a very pointed direction. A 10 year agenda will serve the system very well. The Board will implement their plan in two parts 1) organize its work around the system direction at each board meeting. Each meeting will have an item regarding the system direction on their meeting agenda and 2) the Board added three task forces that are different, bigger and broader. They are, Student Achievement, Student Engagement and Technology.

He also announced the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations for the Community Colleges District 7 has awarded the Creating Opportunities TV ads with a gold medallion and the print ads with a silver medallion. He thanked the Creating Opportunities Committee for all of their work on these ads.

**Washington Learns:** Charlie talked about the November 13<sup>th</sup> Education Summit at Bell Harbor in Seattle. They will be focusing on five initiatives which are: early learning, math & science, personalized learning, expanding colleges & workforce training opportunities and quality & accountability.

There are concerns with the hand-off from the higher education sub-committee and the steering committee.

- 1) Very little support for the 13<sup>th</sup> year, which is now off the table.
- 2) No specific language on the no tuition growth. Tuition should not increase more than 7% per year.
- 3) Governor does not want to add more money to Opportunity Grants until we see the results of the first 10 opportunity grant pilots.

**Prosperity Partnership:** Charlie stated they want to create an economic development strategy for Snohomish, King, Pierce and Kitsap counties. The agency, which is headed up by Bob Drewel, is focusing on one initiative which is higher education.

**Operating Budget Request:** Chris Reykdal gave the report on the 2007-09 operating budget request proposal. Chris led off by saying the State Board staff takes their role of advocacy for the budget very seriously. The budget request was derived from our System Direction. It was packaged and communicated that way. In past budgets, most of the new money coming into the system has been tied to new FTE. This budget contains unparalleled levels of resources focused on student success which is not tied to new FTEs. We still request new enrollments, but we received a lot of feedback from presidents when developing this budget saying in times of tight enrollments, the premium is not in new enrollments.

Colleges had to cut back on programs and services when we received the budget cuts in the late 1990's. We've put all of our money into instructional activities trying to keep up and to make up for the cuts, but this means we lost ground with student support, particularly in our ability to support our students who don't pay tuition. This budget reflects a request for critical resources for institutional support, support that's not tied to a particular FTE. Our message to the Legislature is we will meet our FTE goals, but we may meet them by doing a better job of retaining the students we have, rather than bringing more new ones to our colleges.

There is money on the table this year. The housing market drove a lot of money to the state and there will be many demands for this money.

Chris walked through the operating budget request (pink sheet attached) line item by line item. He explained the rationale that went behind the request for:

- Enrollment growth (general enrollments, high demand and ABE/ESL)
- Customized Skills Training
- Dual Credit
- Student Success
- No tuition increase (backfill from the Legislature)
- Opportunity Grants
- Student Persistence
- Innovation
- Equipment
- Educational Technology
- Facilities Maintenance and Operations fees
- Compensation (COLA, Increments, and Part-time catch-up)

Jim Robinson asked the trustees if they wanted to push harder for a higher COLA than set by I-732. John Warring said the salary level for many faculty was about right, but not for those instructors in high demand areas. Politically, he suggested we wait for the comprehensive salary study. Steve Miller concurred. He feels we need data to find a solution that is dynamic – a system that is reflective of changes. Wayne Martin said the Salary Task Force asked the State Board to do a salary study. Don Meyer stressed there is a quality piece to the compensation issue. He also said if we are going to do a comprehensive salary study, we have to look at tenure policy at the same time.

Chris pointed out the Legislature has not funded salary increase requests above the COLA. We need the study to improve our arguments before the Legislature. He also pointed out the part-time faculty salaries have increased at a faster rate than the full-time faculty. The full-timers have been keeping up with the state's inflation rate. The issues in Yakima are different than those in Seattle. We need something that creates flexibility.

**Joint Legislative Committee Report:** Ronnie gave a report on the October 25<sup>th</sup> Joint Legislative Committee meeting. Faculty increments are a big push for the unions. TACTC is going forward with faculty increments and opportunity grants. Committees will be set-up on each of the areas we are focusing on. Each trustee on the committee will become subject matter experts and will be asked to attend hearings to discuss these important issues. Feedback from trustees regarding communication was it's easier to reach out to everybody with email instead of using a phone tree.

Ronnie encouraged those trustees who want to attend the ACCT National Legislative Summit to do so. It's a good opportunity to talk with congressmen/women and share data on what your college has been doing and where they can help. The NLS is February 12-14, 2007 in Washington, D.C.

**Messaging:** Suzy Ames, SBCTC Communications Director reported Edmonds and Everett pulled together a brochure with the legislative requests that marries with the budget request. Messages are being conveyed across the board among TACTC, WACTC, and the State Board. CEO Magazine will be sent to all trustees with a note to share with your legislators and community leaders.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.