

PLA COUNCIL

AGENDA-MAY 4, 2016 – 10 AM-2 PM

Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, Room 102A

Present: John Cech, Sue Jones, Katie Spalinger, Steve Lodmell, Daryl Lee, Shawn Grove, Katherine Williams, Lexy Fisher, Ricki Jones, Michael Schulz, Joel Sims, Ron Larsen, Dena Wagner-Fossen, Cliff Coppersmith, Garth Sleight

- I. Welcome & Opening Remarks-Chair Steve Lodmell
- II. Housekeeping-Spalinger
- III. Feedback & Next Steps-Professional Development in MUS-S. Jones
 - *Professional development activities finished (Academic Advisor and Faculty Assessor Training)*
 - *Sue summarized trainings and evaluation results*
 - *Ideas for a big event*
 - *Symposium format with offers to engage faculty and employers also*
 - *If smaller events take place, have a large culminating event*
 - *Awareness for students is key*
 - *Increase FTE on campuses and make Montana schools more marketable*
 - *Apprenticeships, corporate and business engagement*
- IV. Policy Work-UM and Missoula College Progress-Lodmell
 - *Campus policies and procedures are needed*
 - *Steve shared University of Montana's outline with the group*
 - *Suggestions posed:*

- *Open communication on campus*
- *Self-taught skills*
- *AP Credits*

V. Workgroup Reports:

- **Transcription, Transfer, Tracking-Wagner-Fossen**
 - *Created with MACRAO and everyone who has responded as of now is in support, even if not using Banner*
 - *Each campus will need to apply their own policy regarding transfer credits*
 - *Question/Suggestion:*
 - *When will this new tracking system go into effect?*
 - *Directive from OCHE regarding this model and date it will be effective (July 1 for fall semester)*
 - *Each campus will need to provide the list of codes already using for reporting*
- **PLA Council will send a letter to Dr. Cech recommending the implementation of this**
- **Fees-Larsen, Coppersmith, R. Jones, Ellsworth, Schulz, Sleight**
 - *Significant uncertainty associated with these numbers and going forward*
 - *Allow for materials fee, if necessary*
 - *Suggestions proposed:*
 - *Different fees for challenge exam vs portfolio*
 - *Funding help from the system to get PLA going*
- **Share fee information with campuses, especially the initial information that Mike Schulz researched and shared.**

- Veterans Issues and PLA Outreach-Grove, Lee, Engebretson
 - *Students are not always willing to submit transcripts because of the fear of too many transfer credits that would hinder financial aid.*
 - *A consistent plan for transcripting is needed*
 - *Daryl presented findings/recommendations from his visits across the state*
 - *Ex: Create a veterans crosswalk website, create partnerships at the state level with tribals and others (viewed Minnesota's web approach)*
- Apprenticeships and Credit for Internships-Sims, Ryan, Fisher, Williams
 - *Have not had time to reach out to others yet to gather information, however PLA with apprenticeships may be challenging*
 - *Great Falls College working with Kirk Lacy regarding establishing apprenticeships*
 - *MSU Northern is big on co-op experience*
 - *Healthcare Montana has an apprenticeship team in place, but all apprenticeships are non-credit and offered through employers*

VI. Marketing-System Wide and Individual Campus Outreach

- Montana PLA Logo – S. Jones
 - *Council voted on their top choice to help give feedback*
- MSU Northern's Efforts-Williams
 - *Deferred to next meeting*

VII. Next Meeting

- *May meet in the summer if warranted.*