

MINUTES

WEST VIRGINIA COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE EDUCATION

December 5, 2024

A meeting of the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education was held via Zoom beginning at 9:30 am. Council members present were: Bill Baker, Bob Brown, Clinton Burch, Christina Cameron, Tracy Miller and Steve Roberts. Absent were: Michael Graney, Traci Nelson, and Andrew Payne. Also in attendance were Council staff, community and technical college presidents, faculty, staff, and guests.

Call to Order

Chairman Cameron called the meeting to order noting a quorum was present.

1. **Advisory Council of Students Annual Presentation**

Luke Sweat, Chair of the Advisory Council of Students, discussed the Higher Education Health and Aid Grant bill. This bill seeks to fund a program through the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education to address student food insecurities and campus health issues. The funds would cover shelf-stable food, health aids, disposable ware, and storage space construction. Institutions must track inventory, and report purchases to the Chancellor.

2. **Advisory Council of Faculty Annual Presentation**

Eloise Elliott, Chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty, addressed the council's concerns and suggested possible resolutions. Dr. Elliott also discussed possible actions during the coming legislative session.

Faculty and Institutional Concerns include:

- Inadequate Compensation to retain faculty
- PEIA increases
- Faculty evaluation policies and instruments
- Post-tenure review policy
- Lack of transparency and shared governance
- Library Services – reduction in needed journals/books/materials
- Use of AI in Higher Education
- Recruitment and retention of faculty and students
- Tenure at community and technical colleges
- Promotion provisions at community and technical colleges
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) and Academic Freedom
- Campus carry – concealed firearms
- Probation period for full-time faculty
- Faculty credentials for teaching in Higher Education

- Dual Enrollment
 - Course Sharing
 - Campus Safety
- Possible Legislative Actions include:

Possible Legislative Actions include:

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) bill and academic freedom issues
 - Based on current trends in other states, another version of SB 870 may be introduced
- PEIA – contemplating significant increases to deductibles, spousal coverage, and premiums
 - Watch for any reforms that the Legislature makes and if the next governor announces any reforms in his plan
- Libraries and Museums bill related to obscenity to minors
 - Prepare for a resurfacing of this bill
- Public Safety
 - Encourage the Legislature to provide resources for recruitment and retention of campus police officers
- Higher Education Health and Aid Grant
 - Advisory Council of Students’ proposed bill
 - Addresses student food insecurities and health and hygiene inadequacies

3. Advisory Council of Classified Employees Annual Presentation

Jenna Derrico, Advisory Council of Classified Employees Chair, discussed issues faculty are focusing on this year.

Institutional Concerns:

- Maintenance of classification and compensation
- Infrequent meetings of the Job Classification Committee
- Compensation Planning and Review Committee not established
- Permanent funding solution for PEIA

Legislative Concerns:

- Fiscal liabilities for higher education funding and surplus reliance
- Permanent funding solution for PEIA

The Advisory Council also expressed its recognition of the value for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives and academic freedom.

4. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Brown moved the adoption of the minutes from the October 17, 2024, meeting of the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education.

Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

5. FY 2024 Consolidated Audit Presentation

Misty Price, Vice Chancellor for Finance gave a summary of the audit then introduced auditors Chris Deweese, Kaitlin Tornes and Sarah Crouse from Suttle and Stalnaker, PLLC which is subcontracted by Clifton Larson Allen, LLP to complete audits for the Council and most of its institutions. The ultimate responsibility for performance is with CliftonLarsonAllen. Mr. Deweese gave a presentation on their audit analysis and required communication.

Mr. Baker moved the adoption of the following resolution.

Resolved, That the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education accepts the audit of the Council's Combined Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2024.

Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. Motion carried.

6. 2024 Financial Aid Comprehensive Report

Mr. Brian Weingart, Senior Director of Financial Aid, provided an overview of the 2023-24 academic year descriptions and changes to West Virginia financial aid programs, policy recommendations, and longitudinal data about recipients of state financial aid. Mr. Weingart discussed significant challenges with the 2024-25 Federal Financial Aid (FAFSA) application and the action taken by higher education staff and Governor Justice to alleviate some of the burden on students enrolling Fall 2024. He further the remaining financial aid programs.

7. Fall 2024 Enrollment Report

Dr. Zorrie Georgieva, Senior Director of Research, provided a presentation that included an analysis of current enrollment data derived from the Fall Census 2024 data collection, along with a discussion of historical enrollment trends.

Possible Executive Session Under the Authority of W. Va. Code § 6-9A-4 for the Following:

8. Acting Presidential Contract and Compensation at Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College

Mr. Brown moved that the Council go into Executive Session in accordance with WV Code §6-9A-4 to discuss personnel matters. Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Following Executive Session, the Council reconvened in open session and the following action was taken:

Mr. Brown moved to reject the proposed resolution to appoint Darrell Taylor as Acting President of Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College and further rejects the proposed compensation for Mr. Taylor in the contract proposed by the institutional board of governors.

Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

9. Additional Comments/Chancellor's Report

Chancellor Tucker expressed her gratitude to several cabinet members for their outstanding work and acknowledged the Legislature's support, which makes the agency's efforts possible.

Chairman Cameron thanked Chancellor Tucker for all of her hard work.

Tracy Miller commented that she believed Dual Enrollment is the catalyst for the work we're doing to increase enrollment. Ms. Miller said she appreciated today's meeting agenda that provided needed information

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Council Meeting: January 16, 2024
Time: 9:30 am
Location: Zoom



Christina Cameron, Chairman



Tracy Miller, Secretary