

North Central P-16 Council

Minutes

July 20, 2012

PRESENT:

Members

Tim Amyx	Mike Fussell	Patty Powell
Benny Bills	Jim Hiett	Judy Schuelke
Howard Bradley	Bob Jankiewicz	Mike Shackelford
Paige Brown	Jimmy Johnson	Vanessa Silkwood
Kevin Cook	Charles Lea	Jerry Spivey
Renee Dauer	Hilary Marabeti	Clay Walker
Kay Dayton	Kelly Miller	Tami Wallace
Yolanda Ellison	Karen Mitchell	John Watz
Jerry Faulkner	Bill Moss	Dan Whitlow
James Fenton	Reggie Mudd	Saranne Winfield
Margot Fosnes	Rick Parrent	
Fred Frazier	Brenda Payne	

Speakers

Wilson Finch, CIS Grant Program Coordinator, Tennessee Higher Education Commission

Leigh Ann Merry, College Access Initiatives Assistant Director, Tennessee Higher Education Commission

Union University

The meeting was hosted by Union University Hendersonville Campus. Charles Lea welcomed the Council and presented information concerning Union University. Members were given a tour of the new campus and invited to attend the Building Dedication Ceremony on Aug. 2, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

BUSINESS:

Jerry Faulkner called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m.

The minutes of the April 13, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Upon motion by Mike Fussell, second by Bill Moss, the minutes were approved.

Co-Chair Nomination/Election

As a result of Clay Walker excepting a new position in Brentwood, an election was held to nominate a new Business Co-chair. Paige Brown was nominated by Mike Fussell and seconded by Patty Powell. Paige accepted and was approved by the Council.

Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)

Wilson Finch shared information on how PLA can be used as a tool for adults to return to school and an effective way for employers to assist their employees to obtain additional credentials.

PLA is the evaluation and assessment of an individual's life learning for college credit, certification, or advanced standing toward further education or training. Common ways for individuals to acquire college-level learning are through corporate or military training; work experience; civic activity; and independent study. PLA eliminates taking unnecessary classes which saves time and expense for the student.

PLA Students Have:

- Higher GPAs
- Better graduation rates
- Shorter time-to degree
- Higher persistence rates

GEAR UP Grant

Leigh Ann Merry gave an overview of the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) grant.

The United States Department of Education awarded the \$29.5 million GEAR UP grant to TN aiming towards increasing the number of low-income, first generation students enrolling in college.

Three main goals:

1. Increase the academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education for GEAR UP students.
2. Increase the rates of high school graduation and enrollment in postsecondary education for GEAR UP students.
3. Increase GEAR UP students' and their families' knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparation, and financing.

Services are implemented through competitive matching subcontracts to GEAR UP TN Collaborative with a focus on community partnerships for long-term sustainability.

Leigh Ann also shared information concerning eligibility requirements and the selection process.

{Note: View Both PowerPoint presentations on the P-16 blog - <http://blogs.volstate.edu/p16/> }

Announcements:

Jerry Faulkner stated that he will hold a "brainstorming session" with Paige Brown and Mike Davis in an effort to discuss ideas that would move the council forward in establishing a plan of action. Ideas will be discussed at the next meeting in October.

Paige Brown announced that the Rodgers Group BBQ will be held in Gallatin on October 19th, at 11:00 a.m. This is the same date/time as the next P-16 meeting. Other dates/times may be considered for the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.