Fall Meeting Minutes
October 9-10, 2014
HOSTED BY: *Pacific Lutheran University*

Thursday, October 9, 2014
Introduction/Opening Session
- Call to order --Jerad Sorber– Meeting began at 1:04 PM
- Jerad introduced himself as chair and thanked Sean Lacy for hosting.
- Sean Lacy from PLU welcomed everyone and made housekeeping announcements.
- Welcome from Dr. Thomas Krise, President of Pacific Lutheran University.
- Members introduced themselves, starting with the executive board.
- Approval of previous minutes, Moved by Rose Spodobalski-Brower. After a small addendum from Cathy Shaffer, Motion was seconded and carried at 1:30 pm.
- Treasurer report by Vice-Chair/Treasurer Cathy Shaffer
- Current meeting fees received as of October 9, 2014 have not been calculated in the account.
- Current account balance is $6887.79. (The account usually varies between $6100-7000. We usually collect between $800-900 per meeting.) $0 for travel scholarship was issued for Fall 2014.
- Circulation of question box was handled by Keith Klauss, Past Chair. Keith encouraged questions, especially from new members. It was noted that once again, there were many new members.
- Announcements – Sean Lacy, Secretary.

OAR Report – Cindy Mowry, Clover Park Technical College, current OAR chair.
- The ICRC Executive Board approved the OAR committee's recommendation to simplify the Questionnaire to remove redundancy. Future reviews will use the new Questionnaire.
- For the 2014-2015 year, OAR will review Yakima Valley, Lake Washington Tech, Tacoma, Bellevue, Centralia, Cascadia, Clover Park and South Puget Sound.
- Recommendation from OAR: The person submitting the self-assessment to submit to OAR knows their catalog really well. Sometimes the OAR Committee finds that the answers provided are incorrect.
- Questions posed: How long after OAR completes a review will the college being reviewed receive OAR's recommendations? Answer: Usually a couple of weeks.
- OAR appreciates the work of those submitting the self-evaluation. It really saves time and focuses the review.
- Sue Perrault from Yakima Valley volunteered to serve on OAR this year.

Agency Reports
- **Articulation Transfer Council (ATC) – Kyle Hammon**
  - **Upcoming Training on Resource Allocation** at Pierce College.
  - **PeopleSoft Transition** is proceeding apace.
  - **AP Test Score Policy coming** soon: standardized acceptance across the CTC system is in the works.

- **Washington Council for High School and College Relations (WCHSCR) – Jim West**
  - Until now, colleges and high schools have paid for annual WCHSCR dues and for workshops. To encourage membership, WCHSCR has decided to allow high schools to join for free, only charging high schools and high school counselors for the workshops.

Colleges and universities will continue to pay membership dues. The annual fee for colleges will remain $150.00.

- o The State Board of Education is interested in opinions regarding changes in high school graduation requirements. Follow a link on the State Board of Education website: http://www.sbe.wa.gov/
- o The Independent Colleges of Washington (ICW) is now 60 years old.
- o Updates on Running Start and a potential funding proposal to remove cost as a decision factor for students deciding between dual credit programs like College-in-the-High-School, Running Start, and AP and IB.
- o The Council of Presidents has funding on its mind in light of the McCleary decision. The Legislature has been held in contempt for not fully funding education, but there are no more dollars available now than there were before the decision and the contempt order.
- o For new members, Jim ran through the list of things WCHSCR does. Find a list at the WCHSCR homepage: http://www.washingtoncouncil.org/

- **Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) – Jim West**
  (PowerPoint is available on WSAC website under Meeting Minutes Fall 2014)
    - o **Dual Credit Look-up tool.** The WSAC will have an online look-up tool for comparing IB/CTC/BI courses available on ReadySetGrad.org soon.
    - o **Expanding Student Equity.** Ways to remove cost as a decision factor for students in the choice between College-in-the-High-School, Running Start, and AP and IB credit will be explored this year. Cody Eccles added that the Council of Presidents will be asking for more money, as Work Study dollars could be cut to fund college-in-the-high-school programs like Running Start courses delivered at high schools instead of community colleges and minimizing the cost of AP tests.
    - o **Tech Prep courses not eligible for Federal funds.** In response to a question from the floor, Jim noted that tech prep courses are still not eligible for Federal funding.
    - o **Send PLA Policy for Veterans to the Workgroup by June 2015.** Send one paragraph to Jim West at WSAC about your school's PLA Policy for Veterans for inclusion in the yearly PLA report to the legislature
    - o **Fine Arts DTA.** In response to a question from the floor, Jim talked about the process currently underway to define a Fine Arts DTA in Music. A Working group will meet on October 21.

- **State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) – Joyce Hammer**
    - o **Joyce is Washington State's new Director of Transfer Education**
    - o **SBCTC oversees the approval process for applied baccalaureate degrees.** Their website has all of the current names of community and technical colleges as they change names to reflect their applied baccalaureate degree granting status.
    - o **Bachelor of Applied Sciences: Policy and Outcomes Evaluation August 2014 online at SBCTC website.**
    - o **Joyce reminded the group that in addition to the degree offerings at community colleges, technical colleges have been offering DTA's since 2009.**
    - o **Reverse Transfer** is on SBCTC's mind this year. Completing the associate's degree credential makes completing the bachelor's degree more likely and gives students more flexibility if they are not able to complete a bachelor's degree. There is a minimum number of credits to complete at the community college before transferring. Question

from the floor: What schools are involved? Answer: An increasing number, including Central, Eastern, Highline College and Spokane Community College.

- o **Hot Topic for this year's agenda - Joyce is working on:**
    - ▪ **Reverse Transfer**
    - ▪ **Computer Science Pathways**
    - ▪ **Applied Baccalaureate degrees**
    - ▪ **New Music and RN-BSN DTA/MRP's**
- o **Since English 100 is not deemed college level for academic English, the course number will be changed to a two-digit number to avoid confusion. For colleges who have English 100 at college level for professional technical programs, they will change the prefix to a professional/technical prefix.**
- o **Currently, AP scores of 3 should qualify for at least elective credit at CTC's.** Joyce is a part of the conversation about uniformity in awarding college-credit for AP scores for courses in the distribution areas. A case could be made that awarding of credit for AP scores should be the same at all CTCs, since the same scores, in many cases, allow for credit earned in courses that are commonly numbered. **Question from the floor: SAT/ACT scores to be used for Math/English Placement?** Some discussion, and Mike Flodin from TCC offered that the idea has been endorsed but that cut offs had not yet been assigned. Cody Eccles added that with a 3 or 4 score on an AP Math or English test, no remedial English or Math is necessary. The Smarter Balanced Assessment was mentioned, and it was agreed to put Smarter Balanced Assessments on the Spring ICRC Meeting Agenda.

- **Joint Transfer Council (JTC) – Jerad Sorber**
    - **Provisos Update.** The DTA talks about General Education, not major requirements. Some BI's used the Provisos to talk about major related prerequisites, and in consultation with JTC it was decided that this will no longer happen. This will clean up proviso language in the ICRC Handbook.
    - **Fine Arts DTA.** The major challenge in delivering this variation in Music Theory courses and requirements between colleges. Progress continues.
    - **The AS-T is not a DTA.** There was some discussion in JTC that the AS-T does not meet general education requirements at BI's, but can be helpful for STEM preparation.
    - **Consistency in assessing AP Scores.** There was discussion about dual credit reciprocity among colleges and universities in the public system.
    - **The recommendation for PE in the DTA was made official.** Now only three PE <u>activity</u> courses can be counted in the DTA, with the customary two year grace period for students in process when the decision was made.

- **Council of Presidents (COP) – Cody Eccles**
    - o **Cody observed that Jim West and Joyce Hammer brought up most of the agenda for Council of Presidents.**
    - o **COP is a coordinating body, not a governing body. COP is currently working on:**
        - ▪ **Dual Credit:** Council of President's is interested in creating a funding mechanism to help minimize the difference in cost between Running Start at the CC and Running Start offered in the high school campus.
        - ▪ **Student Choice:** Dual credit options should be cost neutral.

- **Computer Sciences:** COP wants a DTA/MRP for Computer Science degrees, but variation in preferred coding language at different campuses makes that hard. Some use C++, some Java.
- **Legislative Session:** With a 15% cut in higher education funding looming, there is a lot of conversation to implement new ideas on transfer, particularly in light of the McCleary Decision. Class sizes and increases in tuition are likely at the public BI's.
- **Veterans:** The COP is concerned with aligning WA practices with Federal Mandates. Veterans Directors are meeting now.

- **CTClink update: Implementing ERP Software at TCC and SCC - Betsy Abst**
    - **TCC and Spokane:** First-line colleges have done a great job implementing ERP.
    - **Academic structure** poses new rigidity in implementation – homework has started for affected schools.
    - **Main Critical Factors include:**
        - Register Students
        - Collect Tuition
        - Award/Disburse Financial Aid
        - Process Payroll
        - Purchase Goods
        - Training Links can be found at SBCTC website.
    - Keith Klauss from Eastern and Emily Leggio from UW Seattle both asked about electronic course transfer loading into university data system, not just electronic delivery of a PDF.
        - The team is trying to make transcripts perfect. Betsy showed an example and it did not have College Level, or clvl, GPA. There was some discussion about why that is, and Betsy said she and the team didn't know it was important. BI's can recalculate, but Betsy asked the room if ICRC feels it is important to have clvl on the new transcripts. After some discussion, there was unanimous agreement around a recommendation from ICRC to SBCTC to add clvl to PeopleSoft transcripts.
    - **Motion** to recommend that SBCTC explore adding college level GPA to all transcripts was carried unanimously.
    - **Question from the floor:** "What about a student with credits from 10 years ago?" The answer from Betsy is that PeopleSoft conversion will include 6 years of historic records, and schools will use legacy systems for older records.
    - **Question from the floor:** "Do we have to maintain the older records?" Answer: Older records will be paper, newer ones legacy systems or PeopleSoft. Archive transcripts can brought through to PeopleSoft electronically, but they currently are working on how to do that. "It's on the list."
    - **Comment from the floor:** "We started with PeopleSoft 9 years ago and we wish we had figured out what to do if there are *no* college-level courses on the transcript – this leaves no GPA. We also manually rebuilt transcripts in the legacy system and in PeopleSoft – we still have to use both systems."

- **Ongoing Articulation Review for BI's – Jerad Sorber**

- o **Should Baccalaureate Catalogs and Advising Guides be reviewed by ICRC for compliance and clarity around transfer issues like CTC catalogs are currently?** The question has been asked before, and Jerad led a discussion about it.
- o **Broad agreement from the floor, but with questions:**
  - Keith Klauss from Eastern prefers a self-review instead.
  - Peggy Moe from Renton Tech. added that MRP's for universities are more problematic for students and CTC's than the DTA is for universities.
  - Emily Leggio from UW asked what the review would look like.
  - Mike Flodin from TCC asked whether recommendations from OAR to BI's could change the DTA. Keith responded that he does not think so, since Gen. Eds at the CTC's are usually "easier or not as prescribed" – the BI's are agreeing to accept courses as equivalent, not seeking to make courses equivalent.
  - Debbie Crouch from SPU adds: "The value in the review isn't just in compliance, but in answering the question, 'Do the people who need to know that (the DTA is accepting courses as equivalent, not making courses equivalent), *actually* know that?"
  - Jim West from SBCTC added that the reviews help institutions answer, "Is your current language clear to the student?"
  - The discussion could have continued, but began to sound like actionable new business. Further discussion was tabled and a recommendation made to add OAR Review for BI's to the Spring ICRC Meeting Agenda. Keith Klauss suggested that ICRC representatives take the idea back to their campuses for further discussion and be ready to continue the conversation at the Spring Meeting.

- **Ongoing PLA Conversation – Jerad Sorber**
  - o Jerad said that there are changes coming – a project to make clear what is coming to the BI's on a CTC transcript or portfolio that reflects credit awarded for Prior Learning.
  - o The PeopleSoft conversion is a factor in how things will show up on a transcript – this work is almost done, but not yet ready for publication.
  - o As a follow-on, Keith added that College Source's Transfer Evaluation System is a good tool to help get equivalencies (PLA and otherwise) assigned.

- **Circulation of the question box – and some questions and answers**
  - o **Question:** Where to find FERPA training videos? Cindy Mowry from Clover Park Tech said to find them at the U.S. Department of Education for both faculty and staff.
  - o **Question:** Could the Sciences requirement in the DTA be completed by completing a series of courses in the same discipline? Many in the group answered "No," that would be too specific for the DTA. The "Different Disciplines" rule is designed to limit specialization.
  - o **Question:** Are Dance Classes Humanities courses? Answer from many in the group: they are if they include culture, history, theory, etc.
  - o **Question:** How will BI's transfer in undergraduate research from CTC's? Some are coded, for instance, UGR294, others are independent study research courses. Some discussion, but the group agrees that subject-area research would have to be coded as subject area credit to be evaluated, and UGR courses at CTC used to complete a DTA would be included in the agreement.

- **Meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.**

Friday, October 10, 2014
Introduction/Opening Session

- **Meeting began at 8:30 with guest speaker David Veazey, Director of the Northwest Learning Consortium and PLU's Director of Assessment, Accreditation and Research.**
    - Presentation "Taking a Look Under the Hood:" The Reality Behind the Curtain of General Education Learning.
    - Began by asking the group to guess how students rate themselves on factors like Critical Thinking and Academic Motivation at the beginning of their college experience and toward the end.
    - Cited a Wabash College Center of Inquiry Study (http://www.liberalarts.wabash.edu/study-research/) that suggests that student's own assessment of their engagement with indicators that both employers and educators believe to be important can actually *decrease* while in college.
    - Notes that the data from the Wabash Study shows that there is greater variation in student outcomes within institutions than there is between institutions. That means that all institutions enroll both students that have excellent experiences and students that have horrible experiences.
    - Suggests:
        - Be Honest. Data show there is no room for institutional hubris.
        - Agree about outcomes internally.
        - Create constructive communication to the public about what we actually do.
    - The Pacific Northwest Learning Consortium can help institutions measure student learning. More information at http://www.plu.edu/institutional-research/pnlc/.

- **Meeting resumed at 9:38 a.m. with Keith Klauss covering Provisos in the DTA.**
    - Over the last year, ICRC has asked member BI's to simplify the number and type of provisos published in the handbook.
    - Many have been eliminated in an effort to remove redundant language. The goal is to only have provisos for things the DTA does not cover, rather than having a proviso for each BI. For example, Eastern no longer has a proviso and PLU's proviso has been shortened.
    - This prompted a conversation about what else needs to be updated in the handbook, which still references State Boards that do not exist, etc. Everyone agreed that it is time to update the handbook, and no one objected when Keith volunteered to form an ad hoc committee to suggest revisions. Joan Sarles from Gonzaga, Gail Bruce from Skagit Valley, and Jim West from WSAC volunteered to help.

- **New Business**
    - **Discussion of AAS-T and AS-T degrees.**
        - The question was asked, "Why does it have that T for Transfer on there?" Some colleges find the two degrees confusing. The answer from many in the group is that the AAS-T degrees are really for signed articulations between a CTC and a BI. They are not like the general transfer degrees.
        - Some suggested that students are confused about the two often enough that we should make a change or clarify.
        - The concept was to have these degrees feed Applied Bachelor's degrees. After some discussion about negative effects of this recurring confusion on CTC's, BI's

and students, it was decided that Joyce Hammer will take this back to SBCTC for further discussion.

- o **Discussion of Foreign Language in the DTA.**
  - It was proposed to drop the last sentence of the foreign language section of the DTA Humanities guidelines that say, "… no more than 5 credits of foreign language." Some feel that this language disadvantages language departments and students who might complete university entrance requirements by taking two language courses.
  - BI's noted that the rule is a compromise already. One foreign language class is allowed in the DTA, but no BI counts 100 level language toward their humanities requirements.
  - While most of the group agreed that the current language protects the DTA from being over-specialized but still leaves room for completion of BI language entrance requirements in electives, the topic generated enough interest to be placed on the agenda for the Spring Meeting.

- o **Undergraduate Research Courses in Natural Science Distribution**
  - Science research courses will be allowed in the DTA sciences area.
  - Someone asked, "What about the independent study option?" The limitations are that these courses will be in the restricted area only.
  - UW-Seattle noted that BI's don't use undergraduate science courses in their Gen. Eds.
  - Most BI's would need the course to be assigned to a subject area.
  - "What about Interdisciplinary classes that are not listed as Independent Study but don't really fit anywhere else, even though they are very academic?" Answer from BI's seemed to hinge on subject areas or disciplines where the credit would be awarded for.
  - The group agreed that new integrated subject science classes need to be dealt with. The new ICRC Handbook Update Group agreed to consider these courses when they make updates to the handbook.

- **Answers to the Question Box:**
  - o **Question**: Are essays still required to transfer to WSU? **Answer**: No. This led to a discussion about other BI's. Evergreen and Central are "Essay Optional." Someone asked, "If you don't read an essay in admission, what do you consider?" **Answer**, "Academics." Myndee Ronning from Central noted that schools at which the essay is optional may request an essay if the applicant is marginal academically.
  - o **Question**: What is Running Start in the High School? **Answer**: from Joyce Hammer, SBCTC: "Dual Enrollment, funding community college in the high school and university/college in the high school."
    - For example, UW and Western are not allowed to offer Running Start, so they teach College in the High School courses at high schools.
    - A High School transcript will read the same if a student takes Running Start courses at their high school or at their community college.
    - Some public BI's expressed frustration with funding inequities. Students pay for College in the High-School, but not for Running Start courses offered at their high school.

- The original intent of RS in the High School was for rural students who could not travel to the nearest CC.
- Joyce Hammer asked about the difference in teaching quality/teacher preparation between Running Start instructors and College in the High School instructors. This prompted some discussion, as RS instructors are required to have a minimum of a Master's Degree in the subject area, and College in the High School instructors are not. Some CTC's see this as unfair, but the conversation veered away after Joyce observed that this should not be the case.
- Someone asked "What is the financial incentive for High Schools to allow a student to complete one college-level course?" Jim West from WSAC answered that the legislature is currently looking for funding and methods to increase equity for students and colleges in dual-credit programs. A work group is currently looking at dual credit/dual enrollment programs with one issue being equity access to these programs.

- **Question**: How does UW Individuals in Societies (INS) compare with social sciences? **Answer**: For the most part, these UW courses map pretty well to CC transfer social science courses.
- **Question from a BI**: We would like to move our admission deadline up. Is it reasonable to ask for transcripts from spring CC grads by July 1? **Answer from multiple CTC's**: No. Group consensus was that August 1 might be a better date.
- **Question**: Where is the Washington 45? Some discussion, but since new certificates and degrees are precluded by the Feds without employability data, the WA 45 is just a very good advising tool.
- **Question from CTC's to BI's**: How do you view online lab courses? **Answer**: We do not know whether a course had an online lab from your transcripts. They transfer.
- **Question**: What about a QSR on a CTC transcript met by a 4 credit course transferred in from a university? Will the QSR be met with that course when the student transfers from the CTC? **Answer**: Yes, but the student will still have to meet the total number of credits for a degree and for courses in their major at the university. The student could have to make up some number of credits, but the QSR would be met.
- **Question:** We have accepted PLA for technical courses. If we offer PLA for academic areas, will BI's accept it? **Answer**: Coming soon! PLA Meeting at Clover Park on October 21 is particularly about veterans and a coding mechanism for PLA credit. The group is making progress on a format that could help answer the question. Some discussion ensued about the number of credits students usually receive in PLA (5 – 7) and the maximum number of credits allowed in NWCCU for regional accreditation (25% of a degree.

- **Meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.**