

Intercollege Relations Commission

Spring Meeting Minutes

April 15-16, 2010

Bellevue College

Thursday, April 15th

Introduction

- Susan Poch, chair of the ICRC executive committee, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
- Dr. Jean Floten, president of Bellevue College welcomed ICRC to campus.
- Housekeeping- a dinner sign-up sheet was routed.
- Members in attendance and guests introduced themselves.
- The fall 2009 ICRC meeting minutes were approved.
- Secretary/Treasurer Debbie Crouch reported that the ICRC account held \$6844.67 before expenses and dues for the current meeting were taken into account.
- Mike Brandstetter, ICRC past-chair, circulated the question box, explaining that questions would be read and discussed/answered during Friday morning's meeting.

Reminders and Announcements

- Members were asked to consider hosting the fall or spring meetings at their campuses, with the hope that dates and locations could be confirmed on Friday.
- Members were reminded that on Friday a Member-at-Large from the Community and Technical Colleges sector would be elected to the Executive Committee. People were encouraged to consider possible nominees.
- Susan Poch reminded people that Friday's agenda would include discussion about proposed changes to Communication in the DTA. People were encouraged to read the background document in preparation.
- Members were asked to "come hungry" for the continental breakfast Friday morning.

With fewer publications costs, ICRC has a larger pool of money in the bank than in past years. Susan asked that for future discussion people would consider how we might use those funds for the good of the membership and our purposes.

Professional Development

Cable Green, eLearning Director for SBCTC, gave a presentation about changes happening in higher education in relation to free and open access to knowledge, and explained how Washington state is participating in the realm of open course development.

Below (thanks to Joan Sarles of Gonzaga) are many of the sites Cable Green cited to illustrate open learning concepts:

- Learning to Change, Changing to Learn:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tahTKdEUAPk&feature=Playlist&p=53C3759C8ED4609F&playnext_from=PL&playnext=1&index=38
- Look at the UK's "Open University" where the mission is to provide a "high-quality university education available to all": <http://www.open.ac.uk/>
- NSDL is the Nation's online library for education and research in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics: <http://nsdl.org/>

- View videos of talks given by experts: <http://www.ted.com/>
- Free online video courses from leading universities: <http://www.academicearth.org/>
- StraighterLine provides high quality, lower cost online college courses & distance learning courses: <http://www.straighterline.com/>
- The University of the People is the first tuition free online **university** dedicated to the global advancement and democratization of higher education: <http://www.uopeople.org/>
- Learning for everyone, by everyone, about almost anything: <http://p2pu.org/>
- Find peer reviewed online teaching and learning materials. Share advice and expertise about education with expert colleagues. Be recognized for your contributions to quality education: <http://www.merlot.org/merlot/index.htm>
- Rice University's Connexions, a place to view and share educational material made of small knowledge chunks called modules that can be organized as courses, books, reports, etc. Anyone may view or contribute: <http://cnx.org/>
- Here is a K-12 textbook site that allows you to use and adapt science and math textbooks: <http://about.ck12.org/>
- Textbooks by renowned authors which can be remixed to suit your needs: <http://www.flatworldknowledge.com/>
- Yet another textbook site: <http://www.freetextbooks.com/>
- An example of how instantaneously we can interact with others is Click Fix—on this site you can locate a geographic region and report potholes, traffic issues, crimes in progress, etc. <http://themorningsun.com/SeeClickFix/>
- Get access to tons of worldwide statistical studies for your own use: <http://www.gapminder.org/>
- Before you spend hours on your next PowerPoint, look here first and download one for free! <http://www.slideshare.net/>
- Create your own homepage/browser-FREE! <http://www.google.com/ig> (google) and for Bing: <http://www.discoverbing.com/searchdefault/?FORM=MFEHPG&PUBL=adCenter&CREA=use rid17434b1bfc613b0d4c83592eea02b8cd01dfadc>
- Translate text into tons of different languages: http://www.google.com/webmasters/igoogle/translate.html#source=mp_trha&ct=1056755011
- Create your own "Open Source" cites with Linux Red Hat: <http://www.redhat.com/>
- Washington State Open Course project: <http://opencourselibrary.wikispaces.com/>
- Exploring how mass sharing changes everything: <http://www.wikinomics.com/blog/>
- To be able to 'read' free textbooks and other stuff, you need an RSS reader. Download here: <http://www.rssreader.com/download.htm>
- Check out the Slash Gear Hub which will allow you to grab a wifi connection and network with people around you: <http://www.slashgear.com/ces-2008-cables-to-go-wireless-usb-hub-109579/>

ICRC-related Committee Reports and Discussion

Washington Council for High School-College Relations (WCHSCR) – Wanda Curtis (minutes sent prior to meeting)

Commission Reports

- Publications Commission—Discussed the higher education book and how that will look in the near future. There's a possibility of going to a print-on-demand format. Will be discussed this summer.
- Commission on High School College Tours and Fairs—There were eight sites this fall at which a pilot program allowed the participation (for a \$75 fee) of accredited institutions that don't meet Washington Council membership criteria. To be reviewed
 - Spring College Planning Days (formerly the "Junior Tour") was just wrapped up. The tour was done in conjunction with high school exploration day. Eighth group will likely be separated into a separate group.
 - Counselor Workshops in the fall (for high school counselors) continue to successful; will be streamlined, and high school counselors will be surveyed to find out how--and how widely-- the higher ed book is used.

Click into the Washington Council website and give feedback about the site itself and about Washington Council activities.

Washington Council has some openings and is soliciting nominations from those interested in serving on the Board.

Ongoing Articulation Review (OAR) Committee – Cathy Schaffer

- The committee has evaluated Yakima, Tacoma, Bellevue, Centralia, Cascadia and South Puget Sound.
- The OAR template was sent to selected people for review and feedback.
- There are four openings to be filled on OAR: 2 from CTCs and 2 from BIs
- On Friday there will be discussion about review of BIs and a proposed schedule.
- Per ICRC Bylaws, the Member-at-Large-from the Executive Committee is supposed to serve on OAR. The pre-general session meetings, then, cannot be at the same time. The committee is open to changing the Bylaws or reaching agreement about non-conflicting meeting times.
- Schools up for review next are:
 - Big Bend
 - Clark
 - Columbia Basin
 - Peninsula
 - Whatcom
 - Any Tech college that may offer the DTA (if any do)

Agency Reports

Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) – Jim West

Jim let everyone know how much he appreciates their work in higher education, especially during times of economic hardship and increased demand.

Legislative Updates

- Status quo on State Need Grant
- \$4.9 increase in Federal Pell Grant
- State Work Study decreased by 30%, and some other reductions as well
- Senate Bill 6409: Lottery provides some relief
- HEC Board has had a 30% budget cut as well
- Senate Bill 6355: System Design Plan provides a strategic framework to guide the expansion of Washington's higher education system to support the HECB 2008 Master Plan goals.
- Substitute Senate Bill 6696: Education Reform: Race to the Top

Other HECB News

- Engineering MRP posted to HECB website
- *Transfer Rights and Responsibilities* document can be found on HECB website
 - State schools are expected to publish the document verbatim and private schools' modifications (if any) should adhere to the spirit of the document
- Key facts about Higher Education in Washington also on the website
- HECB is looking for a new executive director
- Educators for the 21st Century Conference in October
- New degrees approved may be found on the HECB website
 - CWU-B.A. in Middle Level Mathematics and Science Teaching
 - UWS-Master of Geographic Information Systems
 - UWT-BA in Criminal Justice
- National RAND Study reviewed at March Board Meeting
- The HECB and the State Board of Education have initiated conversations to better align high school graduation requirements with college admissions standards.

State Board for Community & Technical Colleges (SBCTC) – Scott Copeland

Loretta Seppanen has recently retired. Scott Copeland will be the SBCTC contact for ICRC.

[Scott showed a PowerPoint \(3-4 slides\), which is available on the ICRC website.](#)

Issue of note

• Senate Bill 6357 Prior Learning Recognition--HECB will participate with SBCTC to look into this. Accreditation limitations will apply, but limitations imposed by the ICRC agreement (e.g., no more than 15 "gray area" electives) likely will not hold much water with the State Legislature.

- "What Well-Prepared Transfer Students Tell Us about How to Remove Barriers to Transfer," a report by Loretta Seppanen, is on the SBCTC website.

(One tidbit: Students do not find transfer fairs particularly helpful.)

JAOG – Jane Sherman

- The Spring JAOG meeting is coming up early next month.
- The revised engineering MRP is now posted on the HECB website.
- JAOG is supportive of the idea of including BIs in a cycle of review by OAR.
- JAOG is hoping to welcome an ICRC Executive Committee member to join their meetings to build good communication between our groups.

- JAOG is still working on the Math in DTA issue.
- The group is analyzing the MRP feedback.
- ICRC input is needed for proposed changes to Communication in the DTA (which ICRC will discuss April 16).
- JAOG plans to take up concerns they believe have been “floating around,” to determine whether these are individual issues or MRP-related issues or other system issues. If issues appear to be systemic, they will be referred to ICRC for input.
- JAOG will be looking at Loretta Seppanen’s transfer study to see what they can learn.

Friday, April 16th

Agency Reports (continued)

***ATC Report*—Peggy Moe and Michelle Andreas**

- Members of the ICRC exec board met with ATC at the winter meeting in January. The meeting was worthwhile, and the ICRC executive committee will be invited back.
- ATC adjusts its annual work plan based on what others dictate.
- The Student Achievement Initiative is based on a study that shows that students who complete even a year of college learn to be more self-sufficient, even if they do not complete a degree. State’s view of success and “completion” at community college has been narrow. SBCTC looked at what really constitutes “success” at 2-year schools. It’s not always completion of a degree. Many people attend to update skills, ESL students also need to gain skills, and Washington State needs to be able to harness the productivity of all.
- SBCTC’s “Student Achievement Initiative” looks at education as achievement and growth of students with a view of understanding roadblocks and helping students reach and get through those roadblocks (e.g., completing ENG 101; completing pre-college math courses). The goal is for schools to be recognized and rewarded for helping students get to and through certain “momentum points”—mile markers that are indicators that students will continue toward certificates and/or degrees. Washington is being recognized nationally for this student achievement work.
- Funding for CTCs is based on the achievement points. However, with budget cuts, some of the key support people for these programs are being cut. A dilemma is that when those who are left behind put in the long hours to continue the programs, the Legislature thinks, “Well, I guess schools didn’t need the funding because they are still getting the job done.”
- ATC meets next month and will look at things such as:
 - How are STEM courses transferring to 4-year schools?
 - There will be some new electives for the DTA in the fall—what will they be?

College Spark and Skagit Valley CC - Gail Bruce

Gail presented information about AVID—Advancement via Individualized Determination

The program, founded 28 years ago in San Diego:

- Improves student ownership of their own learning through understanding learning strategies
- Increases faculty conversations about improving learning.

The program is working well at Skagit—startup was funded by a 3-year College Spark grant.

Students “in the middle,” who participate in the program, include those with GPAs in the 2.0-3.1 range in high school or middle school.

Professional development includes things such as Cornell note taking. Strategies in the classroom include developing relationships, providing relevance and engagement, building scaffolding for the expectation of rigor.

WICR (Writing, Inquiry, Critical thinking and Reciprocal teaching) is a key component of AVID. Questioning, summarizing, clarifying and predicting are the components of reciprocal teaching.

Call for Unfinished Business

OAR BI Review Proposal update—Cathy Shiffer

- Socorro Trapp will be the new OAR chair for 2010-2011.
- OAR plans a new process for the summary of reviews—each OAR member will write up the summary for one school rather than the chair doing all summaries.
- OAR will be sure that online catalog for each school will be reviewed—not just paper catalogs.
- Rose Spodobalski-Bower—Passed out a potential template for reviews of BIs—OAR wants to point out that this is a self-evaluation by each BI.
- Procedural questions:
 - Does this plan need to be approved by Council of Presidents?
 - Who should be OARs contact for the review?
- It would be great if each school's policies would be readily available to transfer students and advisors.
- Discussion about what is the purpose of a BI review:
 - There are two purposes:
 - To help BIs clearly articulate policies
 - To help BIs review their commitments vis a vis the transfer agreements and to confirm whether or not they are upholding their commitments
- Comment: At the CTC and JAOG level there is grave concern that there are course-by-course evaluations taking place.
- Response: It's not expected that BIs (baccalaureate institutions) have a uniform policy regarding acceptance of the DTA—that's why there are provisos. What's important is that a school's acceptance practice matches its policies. It would be helpful if the provisos were presented in a clearly understandable format (e.g., a chart) in the handbook.
- OAR and those who drafted the template will consider comments from today and further discuss the template and will make revisions and then solicit feedback from the membership before finalizing the tool.

BIs should let OAR know who would be the person on their campuses who would answer the questions on the template.

Changes in ICRC Handbook—Susan Poch

Last fall we came up with proposed changes to handbook language regarding the purpose of ICRC (Article II, Section B) in light of the creation of entities such as JAOG. The wording of the proposed changes was made available on the ICRC website prior to this meeting.

- Motion was voted upon and approved.
- A change to description of the OAR Committee was proposed in the fall to align descriptions in the constitution and in the Handbook. The membership voted upon the change last fall, with

the official language to be disseminated after the meeting. The ICRC president did send the information to the listserv.

Communications in the DTA Discussion Revisited

- BI representatives indicated that the new proposal is not problematic for 4-year schools.
- Community colleges need to fulfill the minimum requirements, but may decide to require more credits (e.g., two English composition courses and one course in basic speaking skills).
- Suggestion that we revise the proposal to say “At least 5 credits in English composition” rather than “one 5-credit English composition course.”
- Suggestion that the language say “at least 4.5 quarter credit,” to reflect the fact that students transfer work from semester schools.
- Counter to that suggestion is that the structure of the whole DTA agreement deals with quarter credits vs. semester credits. It’s a Washington State agreement that should reflect our structure, which is, at the CTC level, a quarter-based system.

Outcome:

The membership voted to endorse the proposal with the suggested change in the language to “. . . must include at least 5 credits in English composition.”

Common Course Numbering (CCN)--Standing Discussion

A change in the business law curriculum at Walla Walla CC (changing a two-course sequence to one course) seems to have caused UW to review business law courses at all CCs and decide not to accept some of them.

- Commonly-numbered courses will continue to be reviewed by BIs for content, and since content of commonly-numbered courses varies from school to school, not all commonly numbered courses will be accepted by each BI.
- UW said they would no longer accept the business law course from Pierce, even though the only change to the Business Law course was a change in number and subject code.

Schools with concerns related to CCN should send them to the past president of ATC (Peggy Moe, for 2010-2011) and directly to Michele Andres, so they can ensure those will be addressed.

Executive Committee Report

Communication and Relationship with JAOG

- An ICRC Executive Board member will begin to attend each JAOG meeting

ATC and ICRC Relations

- Executive Committee members Susan, Debbie and Vicki attended the ATC winter meeting and found it helped them to better understand the work of each group and points at which our concerns and interests overlap.
- The experience was enlightening and rewarding, and the ICRC Executive Board plans to meet with ATC at the winter meeting next year as well.
- The experience was helpful in that it highlighted where we have common concerns and how our roles on our campuses inform our work.
- ATC found it helpful to have a couple of people from BIs there from ICRC to share a BI perspective.

Call for New Business

Nomination and Election of Member-at-Large

Craig Lewis's nomination was seconded and approved by the membership.

Webmaster for ICRC—The membership approved a proposal that we continue to pay a webmaster to manage the ICRC website.

Discussion of How to Utilize Our Funds

The following suggestions were discussed:

- Bring in someone from out of state to talk about their statewide program
- Lunch on the first day, either for the whole membership or new members
- Pay someone to compile an advising guide for two year advisors regarding transfer to four year schools
- Bring in an expert from a state that does not have a statewide system that is nonetheless successful
- Allocating money for speakers/professional development
- Bring in a Federal official to speak about national changes that may impact our work

Outcome:

The membership found Cable Green to be very helpful/informative and inspiring. They trust the executive committee to find speakers of similar quality.

The Board invites the membership to let us know of any potential speakers from other states with state-wide programs (e.g., common course numbering, direct transfer degrees, an ICRC-type body, etc.) that facilitate student transfer

New Members for OAR (Ongoing Articulation Review) Committee

The following overview of the OAR process and time commitment for OAR committee members was presented:

Members receive the self-evaluations from each school being reviewed, and the OAR members individually review the materials (about a 2-hour commitment per school being reviewed). Then the committee meets via conference call (about 2 hours per school reviewed). The summary reports also take about 2 hours each.

New members who volunteered are:

Catherine Kwong, Bellevue College
Mindy Ronning, Central Washington University
Bonnie Ellis, Cascadia College
Ben Weins, Seattle Pacific University

2010-2011 ICRC Meeting Schedule

The fall meeting will be at Everett CC, October 14-15, 2010

The spring meeting will be at Big Bend Community College, April 14-15, 2011

Gift of Appreciation

Jeanne Gaffney, incoming ICRC Chair, thanked Susan Poch for her outstanding leadership as the 2010-2011 Chair of the Executive Committee and presented her with a gift and a card signed by the membership.

The Questions Box—Mike Brandstetter, facilitator

Q: Courses in Cinema—Currently “Cinema” courses are on the restricted list for transfer. If Cinema courses are moved to the “Communication Studies” subject, thus becoming part of a subject that’s on the unrestricted list, is that problematic?

A: (From BI representatives): Acceptability of a course is based on its content rather than its disciplinary designation. The courses would need to be individually reviewed by BIs.

Q: Where do Creative Writing classes (&236 and &237) fall within the distributions?

A: They are considered Humanities courses.

Q: Why don’t all business law classes transfer to BIs as part of the Business MRP?

A: Business Law classes may not uniformly transfer to BIs because some schools are looking for specific content (e.g. CWU requires an ethics component). Students need to be aware of the provisos of each BI where MRPs are concerned.

Q: Can mathematics calculus substitute within the DTA- Business MRP in place of Business calculus? CCs understand that only Business calculus is acceptable within the Business MRP and they advise students that way. If BIs (or at least some BIs) are perfectly happy with straight math calculus in place of business calculus, are schools being too restrictive?

A: The Executive Board will refer this question to JAOG and SBCTC.

Q: Has Lake Washington truly begun sending electronic transcripts to BIs.

A: The four-year State schools (including WWU—a Banner school) receive transcripts electronically from the 2-year schools.

Q: Have schools received ACE transcripts, and how do they treat those?

A: UW only has a policy regarding how they treat ACE recommendations for military credit.

Rose will put the question out on the Washington Evaluators listserv.

Comment: ACE is not an accredited, degree-granting entity.

Q: To cut down on travel, costs, has there been discussion about joint meetings of statewide groups and/or merging of groups such as JAOG and ICRC.

A: JAOG and ICRC have different charges and foci so, at least for now, it does not make sense to combine.

Q: Does or will the ICRC consider reviewing the DTA distribution areas and doing away with or combining areas?

A: It is not our role to instigate these kinds of changes, but to inform discussion and decisions.

Q: How are dual-listed courses viewed within the disciplines? If a course is dual-listed under areas that fulfill different areas of the DTA, can a CC choose to use the course in either of those areas for a particular student?

A: Yes, but the course cannot be used to fulfill two distribution areas for the same student.

Q: Will BIs accept upper-division credits in the DTA from the 2-year schools that offer BA degrees?

A: This is a new issue that JAOG and SBCTC will need to consider. In the meantime, 2-year schools will need to make their own internal policies related to this issue, and will need to recognize that the BIs will be ironing out their own policies, which may not match with the CTCs.

Q: Who should make these kinds of decisions?

A: The suggestion is to make the issue known to as many groups as you can access: JAOG, SBCTC, ATC, state agencies reps.

Comment: UW has been surprised to find non-applied learning courses at the 300- and 400-level.

Response: There are upper-division GE's at the two-year schools because students coming out of two-year technical programs need upper-division credit.

Q: What are the minimum residency requirements at the CTC?

A: 45 is the highest, and the low is 15 (at the Seattle CCs).

Final Items

- The membership is encouraged to use the ICRC Listserv to bring up questions and issues between meetings and as a means of gathering agenda items for ICRC meetings. The Listserv can also be used as a means of soliciting feedback related to ICRC meetings.
- Craig Lewis took a show of hands to find out who would like to experience a Japanese tea service at Everett CC in conjunction with the fall meeting. Many people are interested.
- Chuck Nelson let us know that he was part of ICRC at the very beginning, and that we have come a long way in terms of our respectful discussion and valuing of the contributions of CCs and BIs.

Susan Poch adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Crouch

ICRC Secretary/Treasurer