

UW-WTCS Committee on Baccalaureate Expansion  
Minutes of April 21, 2004 Meeting  
1820 Van Hise, 10 AM - 3 PM

Committee members present: Brent Smith, co-chair, Charles Pruitt, co-chair, Mary Alsteens, Roger Axtell, Mary Quinnette Cuene, Deborah Mahaffey, Cora Marrett, William Messner, Lee Rasch, Erika Sander, Robert Sedlak, Craig Stark (via telephone) and Lori Weyers (via telephone). Absent: Eileen Connolly-Keesler, Allan Kehl, and Joseph Stensland. Staff: Kathleen Cullen, Janet Washbon, Frank Goldberg, Larry Rubin, Sharon Wilhelm, and Gail Bergman.

- A. The meeting was called to order by the co-chairs Brent Smith and Charles Pruitt. WTC System President Richard Carpenter welcomed the group and offered words of appreciation and encouragement.
- B. Purpose and Charge of the Committee
  1. Co-chair Pruitt reviewed the charge to the group – citing the appointment letter from System Presidents Carpenter and Katherine Lyall.
  2. Senior Vice President Cora Marrett provided a background for the formation of the committee. It is Part VI of the current UW-WTCS transfer plan. While Parts I-V deal with credit transfer from the WTCS to UWS, Part VI has a broader focus on exploring additional options for expanding the number of baccalaureate degree holders in Wisconsin in collaborative and cost-effective ways.
  3. Assistant Vice President Larry Rubin reviewed Parts I through V of the transfer plan, updating the group on the implementation of each part.
- C. Discussion of General Expectations (led by Co-chair Smith)
  1. The committee membership is set; additional members will not be added and substitutes are discouraged.
  2. The committee should focus on its charge and not revisit credit transfer issues.
  3. Meetings will generally be informal.
  4. Minutes of the meeting will be compiled and shared.
  5. A website (<http://www.uwsa.edu/opar/cobe/>) will be created to assist in the sharing of information.
  6. A listserve has also been created to share items within the committee (uw-wtcsjoint@maillist.uwsa.edu).
- D. Presentation: Expanding Access to the Baccalaureate Degree (by Janet Washbon and Frank Goldberg). (The presentation is on the committee website at [http://www.uwsa.edu/opar/cobe/meetings/uws-wtcs\\_4-21.pdf](http://www.uwsa.edu/opar/cobe/meetings/uws-wtcs_4-21.pdf))  
Primary points included:
  1. Wisconsin lags the region and the nation in per capita income.
  2. Per capita income is correlated with educational attainment.
  3. While Wisconsin lags the nation and some states in the region in the proportion of the population (25 years or over) with a bachelor's degree or higher, it ranks second in the region, and ninth nationally, in the proportion of the population with an associate's degree.

4. The proportion of the population in a state with a bachelor's degree is not just a result of degrees produced. In-migration and out-migration of college-educated people also have an impact.
5. Wisconsin provides high levels of access to the baccalaureate for traditional age students. Wisconsin has not done as well in serving minority, low/moderate income, and non-traditional age students.
6. States rely on different strategies or policy levers to create a supply of workers with bachelor's degrees – both supply-side and demand-side approaches.
7. Access may be the primary area of committee focus as it is one that the UWS and WTCS can influence.

E. Development of Work Plan

1. Areas where more information is needed
  - a. Strategies that other states have used to create a supply of workers with bachelor's degrees. Models used by other states to provide additional access to the baccalaureate degree. What has worked? What hasn't? What challenges and obstacles were faced?
  - b. More detailed student demographics of the UW and WTC Systems – breakdowns of non-traditional and minority students. What is the degree of dual enrollment in the two Systems and swirling back and forth between Systems?
  - c. Labor market information - what are the state needs? In what areas will more degree-holders be needed?
  - d. What types of programs/services serve non-traditional age students?
  - e. What is the current situation in Wisconsin postsecondary institutions? What types of programs are offered (WTCS applied associate-degree, WTCS liberal arts, UW Colleges, collaborative programs, degree completion programs, WAICU)?
  - f. What is the impact of financial aid on access to and the completion of a bachelor's degree?
2. Additional topics for upcoming meetings
  - a. The committee needs to define goals. How many more bachelor degree recipients do we want? In what areas?
  - b. The committee needs to seek input from decision-makers and stakeholders in Wisconsin. How should this be done?
  - c. The committee needs to review existing and new proposals/options for programs. How should this be done?

F. Proposed Calendar of Meetings

1. The next meeting will be on May 12 from 10 AM – 3 PM in 1820 Van Hise. Tentative dates for future meeting are: June 9, September 14 and October 12.