

**MINUTES OF THE
HIGHER EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
ROOM 210 SENATE BUILDING, STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2012**

Members Present: Sen. Stephen H. Urquhart, Senate Chair
 Rep. Michael T. Morley, House Chair
 Rep. Jack R. Draxler, House Vice Chair
 Sen. Scott Jenkins
 Sen. Stuart Reid
 Sen. Ross I. Romero
 Sen. Jerry Stevenson
 Sen. John L. Valentine
 Rep. Patrice Arent
 Rep. Bradley M. Daw
 Rep. Becky Edwards
 Rep. Don Ipson
 Rep. Kay L. McIff
 Rep. Douglas Sagers
 Rep. Dean Sanpei
 Rep. R. Curt Webb
 Rep. Mark A. Wheatley

Staff Present: Mr. Spencer Pratt, Fiscal Manager
 Ms. Angela Oh, Fiscal Analyst
 Lorna Wells, Secretary

A copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

A list of visitors and a copy of handouts are filed with the committee minutes.

1. **Call to Order.** Co-Chair Morley called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

2. **Approval of Minutes.**

MOTION: Rep. Arent moved to approve the minutes of the following meetings: January 24, 2012; January 26, 2012; January 30, 2012; and February 2, 2012. The motion passed unanimously, with Sen. Valentine, Sen. Romero, Rep. Daw, and Rep. Sagers absent for the vote.

3. Salt Lake Community College - Pres. Cynthia Bioteau

Pres. Bioteau reminded the Committee of her charge to keep Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) a comprehensive community college. She commended the remarkable faculty and staff at SLCC who hold true to that mission. She stated that SLCC is the disruptive innovation that Dr. Christensen talked about. SLCC is affordable, simple, accessible and responsive. She discussed the distinct mission of the college and stressed the importance of working with students, business and the community. SLCC has focused on completion rates and is recognized as #3 in the United States in number of Associate Degrees conferred by a two-year institution. She reported on the improved retention rates. She discussed some recent innovations in college, transfer and workforce readiness.

Pres. Bioteau mentioned that SLCC has been working with high schools in the area of college readiness through Concurrent Enrollment. She specifically mentioned the partnership with Copper Hills High School and Principal Todd Quarnberg.

Co-Chair Urquhart asked Principal Quarnberg to explain this partnership.

Mr. Quarnberg discussed the partnership between SLCC and Copper Hills High School. The majority of their students attend SLCC. They have been meeting specifically with the Math and English departments. They have been training teachers and students. This year they will have 54 students graduate with an Associate Degree at the same time they graduate from high school.

Co-Chair Urquhart asked Mr. Quarnberg where Copper Hills is located. Mr. Quarnberg answered that they are in West, West Jordan and indicated that they have a high minority population.

Pres. Bioteau stated that SLCC is a bridge: a bridge from public education to higher education, a bridge from higher education to employment; and a bridge from an Associate's Degree to a Bachelor's Degree.

Co-chair Morley emphasized the importance of the senior year in high school. This combined effort is very commendable and addresses much of the Committee's concern about remediation.

Pres. Bioteau discussed the partnership with West High School and the Career Readiness certificate. If students complete four years of this program, they earn a two-year scholarship to SLCC. She thanked the business partners who have made this scholarship possible. She explained accelerated developmental education and specifically the Math Emporium. This program leverages technology with a student-focused pedagogy. Students move forward at their own pace.

Pres. Bioteau discussed the transfer-ready program. She mentioned the nationally recognized e-portfolio program. She discussed flexible scheduling and the increased summer, on-line, and hybrid enrollment. They have increased on-line enrollment and hybrid classes. They have provided increased support for veterans. Pres. Bioteau discussed the innovations in workforce readiness, and specifically the bio-manufacturing program with L-3 Communications. She introduced Camille Booth from L-3 Communications. There is a great need for a customized electronics technician program. She discussed stackable credentials and the innovations for entrepreneur's program.

Rep. Wheatley reported that he was very impressed with the SLCC display at the Capitol. Pres. Bioteau appreciated the fact that Legislators were able to witness these displays; she mentioned that students are the greatest testament to SLCC.

Co-Chair Morley stated that he appreciates the partnerships with high schools and also the efforts to get people into the workforce.

4. Snow College - Pres. Scott L. Wyatt

Pres. Wyatt thanked the Committee members who have come to visit the campus. He discussed the return on investment that Snow College provides to the State. Snow College was named in the top 10% of two-year colleges in the nation. Pres. Wyatt reported on performance, improvement, and equity. He reported that Snow College has greatly improved the completion rate for disadvantaged students. He mentioned that 49% of their students complete their Associate Degree. Pres. Wyatt discussed the efficiencies at Snow College, especially the cost per completer. He mentioned the enrollment growth at Snow. He discussed the one-year associate degree in partnership with high schools in rural Utah. He reported on the Workforce Preparation for Rural Utah program. He discussed their work with economists, economic development directors, and business and industry leaders. They have closed five programs and reinvested that money into other programs including a new industrial technology CTE program.

Pres. Wyatt discussed the Executive AAS Degrees which include classroom, lab, and on-line instruction. It is delivered by Snow College, designed by employers, and scheduled for working people with certificate and degree options. He reported on the Natural Resources Management Institute. They have partnered with many agencies and Utah State University. They are calling it the workforce ready transfer link. Students could complete their two-year degree and then move on to either get a job or transfer and get a Bachelor's Degree. Freshman students will have opportunities for meaningful field-based experiences with professionals in their area of interest. It has a mix of CTE and General Education. He discussed the commercial music program which combines entrepreneurship and technical components. Pres. Wyatt mentioned that students can get an Associate Degree completely online at Snow. He discussed the benefits of living in rural Utah.

Rep. McIff thanked Pres. Wyatt for the report. He appreciates the fact that Snow has added this General Education component to the technological training. It is important that students be able to read and write and understand at a higher level more than to just be skilled at welding, for example.

Rep. Arent asked Pres. Wyatt what the criteria for efficiency would be. Pres. Wyatt replied that they are efficient when looking at the cost per completer, which would be a more typical business model. Rep. Arent wanted to emphasize that in the quest to be more efficient, colleges shouldn't allow quality to diminish. She stated that it is important to graduate students who will be better citizens.

5. USHE Wrap-up - Commissioner William A. Sederburg

Comm. Sederburg expressed appreciation for Sen. Urquhart touring the campuses in the USHE system. He discussed the advancing innovations in Higher Education. He reported on some of the system-wide innovations with regards to people, disruptive innovations, funding innovation by mission & metrics; and building a healthy network of institutions. He mentioned the budget priority of a 1 percent increase for compensation and a \$5 million increase for merit pay which would be at the Presidents' discretion. They are requesting \$20 million in equity and growth. He mentioned the Governor's Budget of \$8 million. He requested equity funding for each of the institutions and mentioned the "Equity Funding" chart in the handout which specifies the amounts for each institution. Comm. Sederburg mentioned the Technology-Intensive Concurrent Enrollment (TICE). He reported on the CTE Initiatives and the efforts to increase certification in high schools. There is a critical need to build the network of institutions. They are requesting \$200,000 for two new positions and \$1 million for the cluster acceleration program at the Commissioner's office.

Mr. Dave Jordan, Chair, Board of Regents

Mr. Jordan mentioned the equity funding study that was completed. He explained that the largest expense for colleges is personnel. Community Colleges have a lower cost delivery model, and because of this, the state does fund more of their total budget. The research institutions have higher cost-delivery models, and are funded less with state funds.

Rep. McIff asked if the College Presidents agree to the proposed Equity Funding. Mr. Jordan replied that they do agree. He discussed the collaborative efforts in MATH 1030, for example, which involved faculty from all institutions and public education. This course could be delivered in the senior year of high school, and in certain programs it would be the only college-level math class that a student would be required to take. This would eliminate the need for remediation. He mentioned that this is a great opportunity to drive a change agenda which will dramatically change college readiness.

Co-Chair Morley mentioned how important it is for these types of innovations to occur.

Co-Chair Urquhart mentioned that TICE will be discussed at a later meeting.

6. Legislative Audits:

Mr. Darin Underwood, Legislative Audit Manager, reported that the complete audits can be found under Tab 19 of the Budget Binder as well as the electronic dropbox. He introduced Ms. Janice Coleman from the Legislative Auditor General's office, who was the supervisor on this audit.

a. Higher Education Graduation Rates and Excess Hours

Ms. Coleman reported on the graduation rates of the U of U, USU, WSU, and SUU. The audit recommends that the U of U take steps to improve its graduation rates. She discussed the fact that college readiness affects graduation rates. She mentioned that the ACT composite score is indicative of an institution's graduation rate.

Co-Chair Urquhart mentioned that the Committee should focus on Page 17 of the report which shows the percent of students graduating at various admission index scores.

Ms. Coleman discussed the excess credit hour surcharge. She reported that very few students have been identified as having excess credit hours, so little surcharge money has been collected. Because of the broadness of the policy, it is not enforced. She stated that the Utah policy is comparatively lenient. The report states that a firmer policy and more rigorous enforcement should increase surcharge revenue. Several recommendations are listed on Page 35 of the report.

Rep. Arent asked if other states impose a surcharge. Ms. Coleman reported that there are a few states who do collect these surcharges. Research shows that the longer a student is enrolled, the less likely he/she is to graduate.

Rep. Webb asked how many credit hours are typically accumulated in a four-year degree. Ms. Coleman will get this information for Rep. Webb.

Co-Chair Urquhart recommended that the USHE institutions and the Committee look at this report and look for ways to increase the strength of the applicant pool as a whole. This would ensure that all students entering the USHE institutions are ready to succeed.

Because of the time constraints, Co-Chair Morley asked Committee members who had additional questions to ask these of Ms. Coleman off-line.

b. Higher Education Operation and Maintenance

Co-Chair Morley asked Mr. Underwood to hold this report until the next meeting. Co-Chair Morley also stated that the Issue Briefs on Agenda Item #8 would be discussed at the next meeting.

7. UCAT Campus Reports

Pres. Brems introduced the UCAT presidents and distributed a copy of the UCAT annual report.

a. Bridgerland ATC (BATC) - Pres. Richard Maughan

Pres. Maughan said that one of the major innovative roles of the BATC is Custom Fit training. He described the success of the Proctor & Gamble training in Box Elder County. He discussed the new AAS Degree in General Technology at the Brigham City Campus which is a partnership between the BATC and Utah State University.

b. Davis ATC (DATC) - Pres. Michael Bouwhuis

Pres. Bouwhuis discussed the innovative partnerships with the DATC and many private sector companies. Successful students are a result of the high partnership technology. He discussed the innovative economic development in the Northfront Business Resource Center.

c. Dixie ATC (DXATC) - Vice President Kelly Stevens

Ms. Stevens discussed the Manufacturing University at the DXATC funded by a federal grant. They have placed it under the Center for Operational Excellence umbrella. They have added the Lean Six Sigma Program. She discussed the success in partnering with St. George City to finding a new location.

d. Mountainland ATC (MATC) - Pres. Clay Christensen

Pres. Christensen discussed their new campuses at Thanksgiving Point and the Geneva Building which have increased their enrollments, with waiting lists for some courses. They have had students from Midwestern states. He specifically mentioned the success of the certified pipe welding program receiving one of only two nationwide AWS Foundation Grants awarded. They have partnered with many businesses.

e. Ogden/Weber ATC - Pres. Collette Mercier

Pres. Mercier reported on the innovative partnerships with the medical industry. She thanked the committee for the new state-of-the art health building. They now have space to assist students from LPN through the RN program and then on to complete an Associate's Degree. She reported on the success of the dental assistants and dental hygiene programs and the partnerships with Weber State University. Students can receive credit at WSU for classes taken at the Ogden/Weber ATC. She discussed the modular welding certification and the companies that they are working with.

f. Southwest ATC - Pres. Dana Miller

Pres. Miller discussed how they are expanding to meet regional workforce development needs. They have moved from a very humble beginning to a real key component of workforce economic development. He explained the renewable energy program; specifically the Wind Technician Certificate and the partnership with the First Wind wind farm. He invited Committee members to attend the renewable energy conference in the Spring.

g. Tooele ATC - Pres. Scott Snelson

Pres. Snelson explained the vision for the TATC and its partnerships with USU. He discussed the innovation of combining resources from the Legislature, Tooele City, USU, and business and industry to complete the Tooele Education and Training Corridor. The new campus is a state-of-the-art facility to become a great teaching tool.

h. Uintah Basin ATC (UBATC) - Pres. Mark Walker

Pres. Walker mentioned that the UCAT campuses are about economic development and are industry driven. He mentioned the vast hydrocarbon energy reserves in the Uintah Basin, and how important the extraction of these petroleum reserves is to the Uintah Basin. He also explained how it is critical to extract these reserves safely and deliver them to market. The UBATC has trained 4,800 adults in those processes. He discussed the major Uintah Basin oil and gas projects.

Pres. Brems introduced Board of Trustees Chair, Thomas E. Bingham. Mr Bingham stated that the UCAT campuses are identifying the needs of their own communities. They are working with manufacturers, other business, and industries. He discussed the importance of post-secondary training in the programs that UCAT offers and how they can assist in Governor Herbert's 2020 goal that 66% of Utahns, ages 20-64 will have a post-secondary degree or professional certification.

8. Adjournment.

MOTION: Rep. Ipson moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. Committee Co-Chair Morley adjourned the meeting at 10:00 am.

Minutes were reported by Lorna Wells, Secretary.

Sen. Stephen H. Urquhart, Senate Chair

Rep. Michael T. Morley, House Chair