**WSSSC Meeting Notes, 3/26/2020**

**Update from SBCTC Deputy Director for Education Carli Schiffner**

We are interpreting the most recent Executive Order end-date to be April 7. In-person classes could resume April 27, with clinics re-opening May 18. These dates are likely to be pushed out further, considering that COVID-19 infections haven’t plateaued yet.

**Placement Testing**

Sampling of what colleges are doing…

CPTC suspended Accuplacer, using multiple measures or self-placement

Clark is using ALEKS free proctoring (fee waived) and multiple measures

TCC multiple measures, suspending Accuplacer

WVC similar to TCC, moving toward multiple measures for English. Math in good shape

Highline is focused on Math, talking to ProctorU, writing a disclaimer indicating that students can get 100% refund if they self-place into class that is too difficult for them

SPSCC uses self-placement, plus whatever other info they can get

Seattle Colleges are using/piloting guided self-placement

A comment and question on TEAS testing, that it is not available until June--LWIT worked out arrangement for TEAS via Zoom, but one student at a time

A question: are there potential classified bargaining concerns with 3rd party proctoring?

LWIT is using instructional support techs as proctors

There was a question on ATB eligibility testing from GHC, Joe Holliday will connect with Will Durden at SBCTC

**Nursing**

A priority is getting students graduated under the circumstances. Carli indicated there will be a joint letter from all three higher education sectors to the Nursing Commission to petition for substitution of clinical hours with simulation and ask for support for a means of graduating allied health students. The letter will be delivered on Monday.

**Accessibility**

Clark College reports continuing issues

Mark Jenkins(SBCTC) is working with Ed Tech Advisory group, accessibility is top priority. Group is developing procurement guidelines and accessibility checklist (adapted from California), putting out trainings that embed accessibility, for example Panopto, Canvas, Zoom.

Joe Barrientos reported that at South Seattle College a reminder was sent to all staff and faculty, cautioning them to be thinking of accessibility. Concern is that many faculty are not proficient in Panopto, not tech savvy. Joe B asked Mark for list of resources, training that faculty can use. Mark replied that we are working on it, will distribute in next few days, check with your eLearning Director or contact Mark directly if needed in the meantime. [mjenkins@sbctc.edu](mailto:mjenkins@sbctc.edu).

**Financial Aid**

Joe Holliday provided an update on state and federal financial aid. A collation of WSAC guidance was sent to the WSSSC list earlier this week. Federal guidance is less clear but we are monitoring closely. Joe also provided a summary (from AACC) about Title IV components of the federal stimulus bill passed by the Senate. Funding to institutions would include funds for emergency grants to students, flexibility to convert federal workstudy to SEOG, some easing of loan requirements. Bill is not law yet, needs House approval, President’s signature.

Clark College is looking at gap funding, concern that emergency grants will count against maximum aid, complications of distance learning,

Return of federal funds rules are a concern, we are awaiting details of federal stimulus package.

Clark is disbursing aid 10 days before quarter, concerned about effect of rules change if after that date. Other colleges are in the same situation.

We need system voice and advocacy, for example to get financial aid flexibility for I grades and and holding students harmless on SAP. Carli recommended and the group agreed to convene a small workgroup on this. Christina Castorena and Michele Waltz will represent WSSSC. Joe Holliday will ask Ha Nguyen at SBCTC to identify FAC members. State Board staff will also serve, tentatively Joe, Scott Copeland, Ha Nguyen.

A question about guided pathways funding (HB 2158). Carli said we are watching closely. The state’s ability to collect on the B&O tax funding the bill has been severely impacted. We anticipate a Special Legislative Session in June, and will strive to protect our funding. Kristi Wellington Baker added that we need to work together to advocate for our funding.

**Dual Credit**

Joe Holliday and Jamilyn Penn provided a summary of a cross-sector dual credit call yesterday. Jamilyn has done some follow up with OSPI. The sense is that colleges will need to work out CiHS issues with their local school districts and high schools, it may not be a priority at OSPI and in the districts. Carli asked if we can get a list of your questions and concerns, she is meeting with OSPI next week. One idea to explore: can there be a crosswalk of high school core requirements to Running Start and CiHS courses, so that students can graduate high school on time. Please submit those to Joe Holliday.

**Commencement**

Bates has already cancelled there Commencement. The Tacoma Dome was very cooperative.

Most colleges have set a date by which they will decide to cancel or postpone commencement, this week or next. Postponing might be a better strategy to avoid cancellation fees, in some cases. CUSP is discussing this.

**Tele-Counseling**

Highline is using Zoom for counseling, certification for teletherapy available and some counselors have it. Aaron Reader shared several links related to this with the WSSSC list today.

Clark does telehealth certification as well, challenging though if students are non-Washington residents.

Michele Waltz shared a link with Joe earlier in the week, US Health and Human Services Department is waiving HIPAA requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic. Zoom has a HIPAA-compliant version. Here is the link: <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/special-topics/emergency-preparedness/notification-enforcement-discretion-telehealth/index.html>

Next Meeting: we will plan on 1-hour meetings, and we will record them for those unable to participate. About half of today’s call was recorded, Joe will share a link to the recording when available.