**WSSSC Call Notes**

4.16.2020

[see Chat Transcript for more detail]

**Carli Schiffner Update and Direct Admissions Initiative**

Carli Schiffner provided a brief update from SBCTC. There is further word on the Stay Home-Stay Healthy Executive Order. We continue to seek clarification from the Governor’s Office on letting allied health students return to campus for instruction with appropriate social distancing. There was meeting at OSPI this this week that included teachers, principals, and administrators. Topics discussed included grading, seniors, transcripts, and local vs statewide approach. Superintendent Reykdal gave kudos to SBCTC and our colleges for our outreach efforts. Carli also reported on the Direct Admissions Initiative underway, with a launch during the week of May 18. OSPI and WSAC are partnering with us on the initiative. Looking long term, there will be a statewide/system-level approach but local efforts will be the focus this year. She thanked WSSSC, ARC, and FAC representatives on the workgroup.

**Recommendations for Next Round of Stimulus Funding**

Joe Holliday summarized the invitation to write a letter to Governor Inslee’s staff with recommendations for the next round of stimulus funding. Ruby Hayden summarized here suggestions, including technology infrastructure for students and staff, social distancing costs (extra lab sections, refitting labs), disinfecting costs, financial aid staffing, and professional development. Matt Campbell echoed Ruby’s suggestions and provided suggestions in writing. Jess Gilmore-English added recommendations for social workers and behavioral health professionals. Claire Peinado emphasized the need to think long term, not just in the current online environment. Bill Belden echoed the need for mental health counselors.

**Discussion of Registration**

[See Chat Transcript]

**CARES Funding for Students**

Implementing CARES Act is creating a significant strain on FA offices, we need to support them. Christina Castorena reported that a FACP award code is set up for reporting aid to the State Board, who got money, how much, what used for, what maximums were set . Christina added that responsibilities for designing and prioritizing CARES student aid should not fall on financial aid officer shoulders. Rather it should be a leadership decision and messaging to students. Different approaches are being taken, for example Edmonds is setting caps on aid by category. She will share a document. SVC will distribute aid the normal way through BankMobile; their executive cabinet is prioritizing based on student groups, for example BEdA and WASFA recipients. Joe added there is a national discussion of how to assist undocumented students in the event they are not eligible for CARES aid, for example paying for childcare and technology for undocumented students. Chio Flores asked how colleges are handling special scrutiny, Christina shared that they use a spreadsheet. Dave Pelkey reported thatSPSCC is using a webform that afeeds spreadsheet; their focus is on how to sustain student need for the next 45 days, can be used for tuition, books, or a check. Advice is to keep it simple and minimize number of contacts with students for this purpose.

**Spring WSSSC Meeting**

Suggested topics are FERPA and online instruction, our role in shaping response to the pandemic (Claire, Sue), Guided Pathways, Equity issues and DEI work in times of crisis (connection to CARES), Councils (CESC for example), election of officers. Jess will send out a survey to the list to identify dates in early May.

**Other**

Kristi Wellington Baker urged that we take advantage of the crisis, don’t revert to previous ineffective/inequitable policies and practices, e.g. classroom assessment, placement, scholarship deadlines, CARES aid to students. She indicated that an open access Google document is being developed to capture discussion and work in this area.