

**MINUTES OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION AND APPLIED TECHNOLOGY
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, May 27, 2008 – 9:00 a.m. – Room C450 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Curtis S. Bramble, Senate Chair
Rep. Kevin S. Garn, House Chair
Sen. Margaret Dayton
Sen. Karen Mayne
Rep. Ron Bigelow
Rep. Lorie D. Fowlke
Rep. James R. Gowens
Rep. Kory M. Holdaway
Rep. Brad King
Rep. Gordon E. Snow

Members Absent:

Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard

Staff Present:

Ms. Constance Steffen, Policy Analyst
Mr. Dee S Larsen, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Wendy Bangerter, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Bramble called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

MOTION: Rep. Bigelow moved to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2008 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. King was absent for the vote.

2. Career and Technical Education (CTE) Issues

Presenters were invited to discuss issues related to CTE, including the definition of CTE, roles and missions of institutions providing CTE, credits and degrees, costs, and governance and to give recommendations to the Committee.

Dr. William Sederburg, President, Utah Valley State College (UVSC), distributed and discussed a copy of a slide presentation addressing the issues listed above. He suggested the following for improving the delivery of CTE:

- 1) establish a statewide clearinghouse for translating competencies into college credit;
- 2) align CTE concurrent enrollment with career pathways;
- 3) provide for state facilitation of articulation agreements based on national standards and accrediting standards;
- 4) mandate regional planning for coordination of CTE services; and
- 5) align career pathways with competencies and knowledge needed for the entire K-16 system.

Dr. Sederberg distributed "UVSC and MATC Joint Resolution," which is an agreement between UVSC and the Mountainland Applied Technology College regarding the delivery of CTE. He also distributed a brief titled, "Retooling Career Technical Education."

Committee questions and discussion followed.

Mr. David Buhler, Interim Commissioner, Utah System of Higher Education (USHE), assisted by Spencer Jenkins, USHE, distributed copies of and gave a slide presentation addressing the issues listed above. Mr. Buhler noted that the Legislature created UCAT to be flexible to meet the training needs of business and

industry, and he recommended that UCAT's core mission continue to be the delivery of short-term, noncredit training for the job market.

Mr. Buhler distributed a packet of information, including:

- charts showing state funded USHE CTE degrees and certificates,
- USHE Perkins CTE CIP Codes,
- CTE definitions,
- USHE headcount of students for CTE courses for 2006-07,
- approved fast track programs,
- USHE annual report for 2008,
- a description of customized/short-term training,
- a chart showing current credit-granting institutions and the duplications as proposed by UCAT,
- "Mission and Roles Related to CTE," and
- Mr. Buhler's response to questions raised at the April 30 and May 13, 2008 meetings.

Committee questions and discussion followed.

3. Credit and Degrees

The Committee requested testimony regarding the requirements for UCAT to be able to offer course credit and Associate of Applied Science degrees.

Mr. Spencer Pratt, Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, reported there are significant costs in seeking Northwest accreditation for all the different campuses. He noted that each program at each institution would have to be articulated with similar programs in each of the other campuses that offer similar programs.

Mr. Buhler and Mr. Gary Wixom, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, distributed and discussed "Credit and Accreditation Issues."

Mr. Rick White, President, UCAT, referred to his observations and opinions that were distributed in the committee packet. He described several models that might work and explained why. He emphasized that his personal commitment is to finding a solution that will work, not to promote a particular solution.

Mr. Richard Maughn, President, Bridgerland Applied Technology College (ATC), stated that governance is the most important issue. He emphasized that in order to be able to respond to business and industry needs, ATCs must be flexible and quick to respond to those needs. He asked the Legislature to consider establishing a separate governing body for the ATCs.

Mr. Mike Bouwhuis, Davis ATC, discussed the need for ATCs to be able to give credit for time at an ATC. He said that it is important to offer all the tools that students expect, and students are interested in earning a degree. He said that employers are also interested, even if those degrees are not transferrable. However, he agreed that the most important issue is governance. It is difficult for the Board of Regents to be advocates for ATCs when ATCs are so different from other higher education institutions.

Mr. Richard Van Ausdale, Dixie ATC, agreed that governance and credit are two big issues. He said that parents and students want credit and degrees, even though the degrees are not designed for transfer. He emphasized that ATCs are about short-term, skill-based training.

They addressed questions from the committee members.

4. Articulation Agreements

Ms. Collette Mercier, Ogden/Weber ATC, distributed an outline of her comments. She spoke in favor of establishing a third board that would help ATCs develop articulation agreements. She explained how an articulation agreement is difficult to reach with an institution outside of an ATC's region and explained the limitations. Ms. Mercier asserted that giving credit would raise the perceived value of technical education.

Mr. Buhler commented that UCAT certificates should be of value to students and to the work place because of the cost to the students in effort, time, and money.

Ms. Mary Shumway, Utah State Office of Education (USOE), emphasized that articulation is key and it is important for ATCs to have articulation for those students who want it.

Chair Garn suggested that USOE, UCAT, and the Board of Regents meet together and bring to the Committee a more workable solution for UCAT to present at the next committee meeting.

A tentative meeting was set for Tuesday, July 15 at 9:00 a.m.

5. Other Items / Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Dayton moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Bramble adjourned the meeting at 12:50 p.m.