

# Higher Education Task Force

## Access and Affordability Sub-Committee

Friday, May 19, 2017  
9:00a – 12:00p (MST)  
Clearwaters Conference Room  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – Len B. Jordan Building  
650 W. State ST.  
Boise, ID 83702

**Dial-In Number: 1-877-820-7831**  
**Guest Passcode: 655568**

Attendees May 5

Matt Hauser  
Bob Kustra  
Bert Glandon  
Emma Atchley  
Mike Mooney  
Carson Howell  
Randall Brumfield  
Tracie Bent  
Bob Lokken  
Ryan Kerby  
Ilana Rubel  
Mark Wheeler – Dean of Extended Studies at BSU

### Discussion Items from May 5

- How do we help the kids who haven't yet chosen or have chosen to not attend college
- Professional career counseling at high school level (AVID cohorts), or, perhaps before beginning high school so as to allow students to understand secondary and postsecondary pathways to career interests.
- Opportunity Scholarship – Do we have enough funds and is it encouraging kids to go on and stay in college; can this be funded a year in advance? On average, less than \$100 available for each student (max award is \$3500). Competitive eligibility for the scholarship has changed from 3.8 to 3.5 HS GPA.
- Notify students earlier of what they are receiving from the Challenge grant, so as to make them aware earlier of what they are receiving before making a decision concerning continued enrollment. (This would require one-time funding of a two-year cycle.)
- When it comes to online education, affordability could also mean that students don't need to move, change jobs, etc. Students who are looking at resuming a degree are not place-bound as much as they are *time* bound. Cost to enroll in online education is about the same as a brick-and-mortar course. Faculty have often indicated that developing curriculum for online instruction have helped them become a 'better' teacher, as it often involves them needing to go deeper into the design of the curriculum and coursework. On the student end, it requires considerable motivation and self-discipline. Success coaches have been integrated at BSU into

some online programs to assist with this. Currently BSU has approximately 5,000 online students, and 700 dual credit students.

- Consider offering CTE courses as dual credit under Advanced Opportunities.
- Need to assure access to sufficient opportunities to participate in dual credit courses (e.g., accredited teachers, online technology, etc.)
- Examine model similar to Idaho/INBRE, where high school graduates are offered 10-week paid trainee/research position in STEM field in a faculty lab over the summer, which also requires development of seminar presentations and present at INBRE Summer Research Conference. Students must be planning to ensure an Idaho public college or university.
- Rethink: adult completer scholarship (reframe in perspective other than 'free money'), rethink CCA goals (focuses attention only on younger students)
- Can we use the instructional designers at one institution for all institutions across the state
- Should we look at a summer trimester similar to what BYU-I has done, so as to help address issues with summer melt and help develop postsecondary academic preparedness
- Waterloo Cooperative (Ilana Rubel)

#### **Things we know or think we do:**

- Affordability is #1 barrier
- Impact of distance learning and studying at home provides significant reduction in net cost
- Scholarship coordination
- Access must be expanded with a robust/efficient on line system

#### **Items that will help:**

- Next steps website
- Communication designed to reach, educate and recruit postsecondary enrollment to Hispanic, low to moderate income graduates and their parents
- McClure study highlights Idahoan's high school graduates propensity to go to Church mission and on to Military service--how do we get them back in the education system when they return or show the military group an alternative?
- IDLA resource for Idaho teachers- outcomes of their work--can it do more?

#### **Issue statements**

- Access is not available in current delivery systems to reach 60% goal
- Affordability is one of the main, if not the main, barrier

#### **Guests for May 19**

- Johanna Jones – Indian Education Committee
- Cindy Phelps – Chair of the Lemhi Education Project (10:00)
- Juan Saldana – Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs (10:30)
- Joy Miller – Office of State Board of Education (available to address questions regarding financial aid policies, processes, issues, etc.)

#### **Questions to consider:**

1.) *Is the problem of affordability:*

a) one of not enough funding?

b) is that the current system costs (or spends) too much to be affordable?

2.) *To what extent should issues with 'access' be considered:*

- a) a geographical problem?
- b) a time problem?
- c) a problem that is neither geographical nor time-related, but something else?

**Guiding objective:**

Focus on a long term strategy. Think through that ideal system of the future and define what it would look like (in terms of affordability and access, and getting to the people not served by the existing system). A system is needed that scales and meets the needs of the population of the people the existing system does not serve. That means developing access that fits their time and place, and is affordable to even low income people.

**Rolling list of items to consider for prioritizing or scaling up:**

- Counselors and counseling (8<sup>th</sup> grade college and career pathway advising/education)
- Online delivery
- Communication tools
- Waterloo Cooperative
- Idaho/INBRE
- Scholarships and funding (Opportunity, dual credit, etc.)
- 'Kerby' scholarships
- Summer melt (follow-up strategies)
- Other financial programs (Board rewards, tuition lock, etc.)
- TRIO program
- Bridge program
- Leveraging Pell funding (summer term reinstated)
- Guided pathways (academic and career/secondary to postsecondary)
- 15 to finish (30/year)
- Co-requisite remediation
- Structured schedules/ Block scheduling/ Cohort models
- Transfer and articulation (particularly dual credit)