



WORKER RETRAINING ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES

June 1, 2023
Zoom Online

Members Present: Narek Danielyan (Committee Chair), Assistant Vice Chancellor, Washington State University; Scott Bailey, ESD;

Members Absent: Catherine Erickson; Columbia Machine; Travis Elmore, WA State Nurses Association; Jay Schmidt, Silicon Forest Electronics; Michelle Thor, Columbia Credit Union; Mark Maggiora, Americans Building Community; Natalie Pacholl, SEH America; Monica Santos-Pinacho, CREDC; David Woodlock, HP Inc;

Guest(s): none

Clark College: Kate Jacky, Financial Aid; Rhianna Johnson, Director of Guided Pathways & Partnerships, Theo Koupelis, Dean of WPTE; Tricia Atkinson, Dean of BHS; Tina Redd, Dean of SOFA; Kristin Sherwood

NEXT MEETING DATE

The committee will meet schedule meetings once per term, four times a year. The next meeting will be in decided based on poll to committee to set the date for some time in July. It was suggested to consider inviting Rebecca Kleiva and Kevin Thomas to provide updates.

College/Program Announcements

Reviewed purpose of the committee, a requirement as part of the workforce grant, and includes everyone at Clark who works with Workforce, external partners in the community, WorkSource and more to assist in allocating the grant funding for students.

Donna shared update on the open Dean positions, BEECH and BHS. The other positions have been filled. Advanced Manufacturing is moving forward with an expected starting at the new campus in 2024. Evening nursing cohort started and surgical tech program is being developed.

The board has approved the new SEM plan, and the other plans are being revised to wrap more succinctly in the this.

Review Worker Retraining Program Mix and Grant Application

Donna shared current program list and the associated funding they will be receiving. Each program that receives funding must be in demand or high wage to receive funding as well as specific occupations that must be excluded or would qualify to be included. There is no clear understanding as to how this list is created and who decided qualified for the grant.

Review Perkins Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment Process and next steps

Donna shared the current status and the intent to wrap in more community and business partners to ensure the trainings meet their needs. This will be starting in the summer and hopes to have the framework for the next meeting to review. The state Perkin's kick off meeting is in August, then Donna can bring it back to the committee in September to look at that next steps are for the Local Needs Assessment.

Partner Updates

Narek shared an update, WSUV has moved to summer term with graduation a few weeks ago. The technical issues of the new Live Nation owners for the amphitheater were related to the first time they have hosted this type of event. The new building is due to be opened soon, having just announced the 1 million dollar contribution from the Cowlitz tribe for it.

Scott shared that the local labor market is great compared to other areas, including the fastest employment growth in the state at 9% with many new jobs in professional services and health care. Child care jobs have recovered, but there is still a shortage. Employment rates by disaggregated by race has shown significant increases as well in populations that have historically not done as well, such as employees of color.

Prepared by Sara Seyller