FACTC meeting

May 15, 2020

Meeting held via Zoom

Present: Terry Taylor (Shoreline, President), Jody Peterson (Centralia, Vice-President), Rob Vogel (Spokane , Treasurer), Sally Sheedy (Whatcom, Communications-Past), Sam Alkhalili (Highline, Communications-Elect), Karen Halpern (South Puget Sound), John Clary (Grays Harbor), Franklin Hsu (Bates), Jim Drinkwine (Whatcom), Ann Murkowski (North Seattle), David Holliway (Big Bend), Aaron Leavitt (Green River), Andi Zamora (Bellingham), Jen Anderson (Bellevue), Jason Nix (Spokane Falls), Jennifer Vaughn (Walla Walla), Amy Shank (Wenatchee Valley), Adam Diaz (Columbia Basin), Tiffanie Maule (Pierce – Puyallup), Laverta Schmeling (Clover Park), Gail Alexander (Cascadia), Esther Sunde (South Seattle, note-taker), Jennifer Whetham (SBCTC), Bill Moore (SBCTC), Arlen Harris (SBCTC), Alissa Sells (SBCTC)

Absent: Denise Vaughn (Seattle Central, Secretary), Tricia Atkinson (Clark), Thomas Murphy (Edmonds), Anne Brackett (Everett ), Jim Howe (Lake Washington), Lucas Myers (Lower Columbia), Martin Cockroft (Olympic), Tara Martin Lopez (Peninsula), Jason Loan (Pierce – Ft. Steilacoom), Chad Weyers (Skagit Valley)

Meeting convened at 1:03 pm.

Call to order: Terry Taylor opened the meeting, and welcomed everyone.

OFFICERS’ REPORTS

Treasurer: Rob Vogel, Spokane, reported that we now have access to the checking account--he and Terry were successful in getting it set up after the last FACTC meeting. He has received dues from 18-19 schools. $10,498. He asked whether he should send out a Treasurer’s report, and noted that we will not have any expenses for our spring meeting.

Vice President: Jody Peterson, Centralia, fell down on the job of handing over the gavel. Terry said that he found a few anomalies on the membership list and will talk to Jody about it.

President: Terry Taylor, Shoreline, met with Carly, Jen and Kristi at SBCTC just before the lockdown began and talked about a role for FACTC with regard to Guided Pathways. Originally they were all going to be at the Assessment, Teaching and Learning (ATL) conference in Lynnwood, which was canceled due to the COVID quarantine. Later this quarter Terry wants to meet with as many of us who can join. Carly began sending him announcements and information, and FACTC is now a conduit for information from SBCTC regarding this topic. Terry noted that the better we can show representation from around the state, the better.

BUSINESS

General discussion of pandemic issues: People reported about college plans for going all or partially online. Some classes need to be taught on site. It also depends on enrollment. Jen Whetham recommends an article by Dr. Elliot Stern, “You Don’t Need a Crystal Ball to Make “the Call” on Fall.”

Selection of officers for 2020-21:

* Communications: Sam Alkhalili, Highline, has expressed interest and spoken with Sally Sheedy about the position. He was unanimously approved to serve as Communications Chair.
* Secretary: Denise Vaughn, Seattle Central, was nominated and unanimously approved to serve as Secretary.
* Treasurer: Rob Vogel, Spokane, was nominated and unanimously approved to serve as Treasurer.
* Vice President: Jody Peterson, Centralia, was nominated and unanimously approved to serve as Vice President.
* President: Terry Taylor, Shoreline, was nominated and unanimously approved to serve as President.

SBCTC Report Bill Moore and Jen Whetham: Jen has established sixteen communities of practice ranging from corrections to STEM to welding. She has worked with folks around the state to ramp up online instruction. Bill said that they anticipate that this work will continue at least through next year, and they hope that it will be ongoing. They had to cancel the ATL conference, and the communities of practice have replaced it.

Jen said that equity gaps have increased with the shift to online instruction. She and Rick Ball launched a boot camp for people who were new to teaching online. Lifeboat strategy sessions were held for online classes—these were all recorded and have been posted. The challenge is to make it sustainable. There are many great resources for online teaching, but they need to be organized and curated. Jen said that she would send out the anti-racist ecology information for ENGL 101.

SBCTC is also going to face budget cuts. There will be a special legislative session in the summer to make budget decisions. What will happen is unknown at this point. A question was asked about whether the Guided Pathways money would be pulled back. Arlen responded that there is a dedicated revenue source from a B & O tax. However, there has not been much Business or Operating in the last couple of months so it is expected that revenue will be down. Any information about potential cuts at this time is speculative, and they are looking at various possibilities and scenarios. As the account stands there is a $40 million gap for Guided Pathways and faculty in high demand fields.

There will be a meeting of the Economic Forecast Council in early June, after which we’ll have a clearer idea of the cuts that will need to happen. Our messaging remains that we are an economic driver for the state—don’t cut the solution; we are the solution. This is a revenue problem and not a budget problem. To sum up, we do not know at this time what will happen with the funds allocated by the legislature for Guided Pathways.

General discussion of pandemic issues (continued): Terry said that colleges have spent a lot of money related to the COVID situation.

Karen Halpern said that Centralia is allocating CARES money to allow students to buy their own laptops in order to support retention. By providing technology and books, they are helping students stay in school.

Terry stated that Shoreline is going online. There are arguments about synchronous versus asynchronous classes. One question that has come up concerns international students who have returned to their home countries; different time zones make it hard to sync up.

Jennifer Vaughn said that Walla Walla has a lot of students in the hospitality industry. Enrollment has spiked because people aren’t working.

### A discussion of the religious accommodation requirements in RCW 28B.137.010: Aaron Leavitt, Green River, noted that the RCW does not limit the amount of time that a student can miss. He had a student who was gone for two weeks on a mission trip. This does not work for the trades because a certain number of hours is required for certification. Jen Whetham suggested checking in with his AG. This RCW affects all of us. The bottom line is that students are not excused from the work and the requirements of the course; they do need to make up the work that they miss when they are gone.

### (The RCW may be found at <https://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=28B.137.010>)

### Future Planning: Our next meeting will be on the Friday of the second week of October, that is, October 9, and will be held online. Terry will schedule a meeting for Kristi Wellington-Baker’s Guided Pathways update before the end of spring quarter.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm, and people who so desired stayed on the call for further conversation.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Esther Sunde.