

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Saturday, November 5th, 2005
Held at Madison Area Technical College

WSG President, *Michelle Scholz*, **called the meeting to order** at 8:17 a.m.

Present were Chippewa Valley, Fox Valley, Lakeshore, Madison Area, Milwaukee Area, Moraine Park, Northeast Wisconsin, Southwest Wisconsin, Western Wisconsin, and Wisconsin Indianhead.

Welcome was given by *Jacquelyn Dahlk, Madison*.

Michelle Scholz discussed General Policy; *Madison* supports more communication with all schools in technical system.

Executive Board Reports

Michelle Scholz talked about her tour of *Blackhawk* (the remodeling looks great) and also that the Board of Directors are in favor of no tax on books. *Christopher Tanner*, in charge of Academic & Legislative Affairs, is asking for e-mails if interested in this committee. His e-mail address is vicepresident@wsgtec.com.

Minutes were accepted as submitted (roll call vote not necessary).

Treasurer's report (Financial Summary) was accepted as submitted.

Bylaw Committee

Laura Erdman, SWTC – nothing new in bylaws besides definition of a quorum.

Legislative Affairs Committee

Textbook tax must become bill before action (should be within the month).

AB 603 Mandating elected Technical College District Boards –

Elected rather than appointed; opposed last time. Successful hearing held Oct. 4; no vote but things are moving in right direction.

AB 743 Changing appropriation method for WHEG and other grant money –

Grants stay level with tuition increases; based on UW system tuition; 4 yr. vs. 2 yr. Vickie Young met with Ms. Black to change this to base it on technical schools. In process of drafting now – no decision needed – don't want it too low.

SB 279 & AB 595 Mandating creation of Liberal Arts programs in certain technical college districts –

Initial Discussion: *Hunter Oemig (WTCS State Board Rep.)* – Board voted on it in August: they are not in direct support of wording; needs to be re-worded. Hunter is willing to bring up

questions to Board; tech. schools would be cheaper than UW; not being discussed with Chancellors at tech. schools.

Vickie Young states the problem – this bill mandates tech. colleges match UW; doesn't benefit students (attacks tech. colleges); applies to only 3 tech. colleges (Madison, Milwaukee & Rhinelander); staff at UW doesn't want tech. students coming in as juniors and seniors; standards aren't the same (tech. not at fault but transferability not always there); certain programs students go on to 4 yr. but not all (like auto mech.); tech. schools working towards better transferability but not UW.

Further Discussion: *Madison* suggested liaison with UW as closer contact will accomplish more; January conference usually has a UW contact present; *Fox Valley* asked if online info might help the 3 credits transfer to 4 credits; easier to transfer back to tech. from UW; perception that tech. schools are lower level than UW even when they are exactly the same; private colleges different (they do accept tech. colleges); colleges are making courses match but we need to continue to press legislators; these bills are now dead; *Chippewa Valley* meeting: bring UW rep. to help answer these questions; Hunter may have good contact. We must address transferability within our own tech. school system before going into tech. to UW transferability problem (different level classes for 2 yr. vs. 4 yr. goals).

Motion to accept as written by *Western*; 2nd by *Indianhead*; passed unanimously.

SB 370 & AB 774 Expanding eligibility for academic excellence scholarships to students enrolling in WTCS two-year diploma programs –

Motion to accept as written by *Chippewa Valley*; 2nd by *Western*; passed unanimously.

LRB 37321/1 Lifting statewide limit to accommodate “needy & worthy” students due to hurricanes Katrina and Rita –

Motion to accept as written by *Fox Valley*; 2nd by *Madison*; passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Vanessa Pickar Western Wisconsin Technical College – Smoking Policies/Tobacco Free – Cessation programs and counseling (money for help from state?); *Ty Patterson, Ozark* wrote policy for their school, steps to take/process, not quick change, talk to smokers and hand out cards; enforcement difficult (slow change easier to enforce); follow administrative process and be prepared to answer questions; Student Senate should help enforce at each school (keeping areas clean, etc.); recommend looking into your school's needs & should be addressed as it is an important issue; *Jackie* – use resources: security, law enforcement, faculty, etc.; come up with many options so you're prepared; emotional battle so do your homework; *Tim* – find out if state or county will pay for cessation programs and counseling.

Seminar Committees

Printing – Milwaukee Area

Speakers – Nicolet Area

Welcoming Table & Registration – Western Wisconsin

Decorations/Entertainment – Northeast Wisconsin

Birthday Basket – Wisconsin Indianhead

Accessories – Southwest Wisconsin

Resource Room – Moraine Park
Position Papers – Madison Area
Silent Auction – Chippewa Valley

Discussion: Speakers (maximum 8) – 8 items (one for each); Birthday Baskets (bring representative of community items – not too small); bring items by next meeting (in January) so baskets can be put together (NOT food – bring ideas for that due to spoilage); baskets items: pens, t-shirts, jackets; Silent Auction items: mouse pads, zip drives, anything you want to bring; Resource Room: promote school items (special items) and school rep. if possible; Entertainment (NETC) – give ideas to *Karen* or e-mail *Vickie*; Hawaii theme, DJ, Karaoke, or bring CD's? (*Karen* needs as many ideas and suggestions as possible). *Vickie* will send links about past seminars to help new people.

Unfinished Business

- WSG now registered as lobbying organization (\$20/yr. to Wisconsin Ethics Board). Seven easy steps for successful lobbying (handout); know your representatives for your school (talk to assistant since they may know more); don't let them change subject or hem & haw; send finished report (word doc) to WSG to follow up.
- Local tech. college board expiring terms; can be appointed to your board; starts by accepting applications; not paid positions (expenses paid though) so not many people apply; this year – employer & employee, future – student at large; comes up every spring so don't miss it (6 week period?); encourage people to apply/contact president.
- Motion to accept change to Bylaws (definition of a quorum) by *Western*; 2nd by *Fox Valley*; passed unanimously.

New Business

Resolution - WSGR-10 WSG must record the intention and reason of motions –

Discussion: *Chris, Indianhead* – how to make permanent record? Resolution based on motion just explains meaning more, but not more important than motion. Kept in resolution book to keep records better and easier to keep track of.

Motion to accept as written by *Chippewa Valley*; 2nd by *Madison*; passed unanimously.

Speakers

Hunter Oemig, Wisconsin Technical College System Student Representative

Trying to get more info. on all subjects for all students; would like more background from all here; get in touch with him to share concerns.

State Board – President Chancy; meetings are 9 times per year; write bills after discussions (get all info. involved), high rep. speak at these meetings.

Started running own business at 14, working on 3rd degree, speaks to business leaders to get info. to help make decisions; appointed by State Governor Doyle.

Paul Gabriel, Executive Director of Wisconsin Technical College District Boards Association

Nine individuals on this board who are charged with governance and work together to help understand board; promote district cooperation and local connection, and meets with college presidents.

Save millions by working together (all here): advocacy (student role).

Politics affects decisions (elections) unfortunately but always.

Property taxes help fund school as state funding decreasing; now more than ¾ on residential homeowners, rather than ½ in past.

Truth about state budget: spent too much to get all funding covered (overspending) but cannot cut back on discretionary programs & keep obligations to non-discretionary programs.

Governor Doyle (Democrat) doesn't want education funding cut; balanced budget by "booking" education funding.

Recession didn't help as economy didn't grow as planned.

"Our strength has been our weakness."

Looming crisis as property tax freeze and TABOR threaten us (tuition increase may be inevitable).

Critical issues: transferability, financial aid; textbooks cost is not as critical as others even though very important.

We need to make our legislators really value us by showing more investments in our education.

"We represent the future of educational power in our state."

"We need to stick together or we'll hang separately" – important to support each other.

What looks good on the surface may not be what meets the eye under scrutinization.

Bills 317 & 318 already passed as tucked into state budget.

Be careful about passing individual bills, as working together should be more important than individual agendas.

Good news: Transferability – UW system realizes problem and is moving along, albeit slowly, to better situation now and next year – more than ever before.

Keep up the pressure!

Mission issue – separate question than mobility issue (apples to apples comparison).

Letters to and discussions with our legislators expressing our concerns – good ideas.

Other Business

Meal choices for February seminar: Orange marmalade chicken, steak with potatoes, (vegetarian also available). Will need to know choice by January meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m. (Motion by *Indianhead*; 2nd by *Madison*).

Next meeting is at Chippewa Valley Technical College on January 6 and 7.

Action Items

WSG Quilt: Any colleges who haven't sent or brought in t-shirts, send them to:

Linda Radomski, 2118 W. Ramsey Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53221