

Council Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2022

9:00am

Zoom

Members Attending (alphabetical by last name):

Jeff Charbonneau, Ruben Flores, Paul Francis, Evangelina Galvan Shreeve, Sativah Jones, Dr. Terri Standish-Kuon, Mustapha Samateh, and Jeff Vincent.

Staff Attending (alphabetical by last name):

Emma Ahern, Abby Chien, Lindsay Cunningham, KC Deane, Heather Hudson, Kara Larson, Hannah Lodwick, Sam Loftin, Ami Magisos, Michael Meotti, Danica Mitchell, Inez Olive, Annie Pocklington, Lynda Ridgeway, Abbey Roth, Rathi Sudhakara, Katie Tallman, and Christina Winstead.

Meeting called to order at 9:05am

Consent Agenda

Motion made to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion made to approve the October Council Meeting Minutes.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

Vote of the Executive Committee

Motion to approve of Executive Committee changes.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

2023 WSAC Council Meeting Dates

Motion to approve 2023 WSAC Council meeting dates.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

Executive Director Update

Presenter: Michael Meotti

- The Governor has proposed an increase in the Regional Challenge Grant for the next two years. It was thought it would be \$6 million/\$8 million/\$8 million. The Governor has proposed the last two being \$10 million and \$10 million. If adopted by legislature, another round of grants will be offered this summer based on a larger pool of available funds.

Comments: Given the response received in the initial round, we can continue to build on the momentum and build even more in the coming years.

Regional Challenge Grants

Presenter: Heather Hudson

Material: [Regional Challenge Grant Overview](#) & [Regional Challenge Grant Recommendations](#)

Introduction: Brand-new program predicated on a complex set of issues. This is a social change agenda driven by partnerships and broad-based partnerships trying to change their community over time. We had the challenge of reviewing 80 proposals. Doing this within less than 6 months, was a very ambitious challenge we have met with a largely new set of staff. Abby Chien and Rathi Sudhakara were key players with Abbey Roth and Hannah Lodwick joining later. We think in the foreseeable future the state will invest in these partnerships and program grants This is a continuing conversation and we look forward to working with established partnerships, new partnerships and, in the future, working with partnerships and organizations that haven't surfaced yet.

Discussion: Heather Hudson gave an overview and provided recommendations on the Regional Challenge Grants. Comments, observations, and questions included:

- This is not about one entity, it's about a collective action model on a regional level that is inclusive of different groups and entities. It's inclusive of CBOs, inclusive of higher ed, inclusive of K-12, and more. One thing that stood out about the applications today, is they included partnerships above and beyond the 'traditional' higher education and K-12 education players that we believe is one of the key components of change over time in a community.
- Partnerships existed across the state, and some included some statewide applications doing work.
- There is a concentration of applications in the Pierce and King County area. 85% of counties in the state had at least one application, leaving only 6 counties that were not represented by a concerted application, but might have been represented in the statewide work.
- King County had the highest number of applications at 21 total. Pierce had 7 applications. It should be noted that several rural applications included more than one county on the application. In particular, the peninsula served several counties in one application. A more comprehensive outline can be seen in the RCG document.
- Generally rural areas show a high interest in the Tier 1 partnership formation grants. Tier 2 was more concentrated in the Puget Sound. Tier 2 exclusive counties were the smallest of the 3 and included Spokane, Whitman, and Wahkiakum.
- Early in the process we speculated we wouldn't get enough applications to fund broadly stated. The thing that surprised us was that not only did we get enough applications, but the sheer volume of applications.
- In the more rural areas, we received more partnership applications.
- Over the summer, there were four meetings and a couple hundred organizations and organizations representatives attended those meetings.
- Going into the recommendations, we have four partnerships for the implementation grants:
 - Foundation for Tacoma Students (FFTS) in Pierce County for \$1,200,000
 - One thing that stood out was the want to expand countywide and have a clear focus on summer melt

- City of Seattle’s Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL) in King County for \$1,250,000
 - In their application, they have an increased focus on closing racial equity gaps focusing on the retention and persistence rates for students
- Launch NW in Spokane County for \$850,000
 - Excited about the work with Launch NW and the implementation of these coordinated community mentor sites at 6 high schools that will extend into family engagement support, peer to peer mentoring, near peer mentoring, parent to parent mentorship, and provide support for the college going process.
- Chehalis School District’s Student Achievement Initiative (SAI) in Lewis County for \$1,050,000
 - They are working with family engagement along the pathway much earlier on, so working with families from pre-kindergarten through middle school and then building out metrics and early warning systems to identify along the pathway what the intervention and strategies are that can help students along the way.
- The recommendation of the Council is to award this slate with the approval of WSAC will move forward with the negotiation with each of these grantees to work out the details of their proposal.
- Are you actively engaging on those applications with Tier 2 applicants that are not on this list on how their proposals could be strengthened?
 - We have another slate of applications within Tier 2 that if we had more money, we would be recommending them. There is another slate of applicants we have that over time, they can build out more components and we would be recommending them. One of our priorities through June is to have our staff go out in the field, develop relationships, understand more partnerships, and understand why they proposed what they did on their application. We have also talked about not requiring people to reapply. If there are things dramatically different, they may need to apply an amendment.
- Most are focused on K-12 students and not adults, could there be more attention on that going forward and who made up the review team?
 - The review process was WSAC staff across different divisions. For the adult pathways, there were some applications and that is an area of growth. Inez Olive, one of our newer staff members, is specifically focused on these adult pathways. That is an area of focus in the next cycle.
- Not asking folks to reapply, how are we going to signal to folks that haven’t applied yet that there isn’t a fixed end?
 - There must be an open grant process every cycle. This is a learning process not only on what works on the ground, but everyone involved on what make the most sense for partnerships. There must be an open formal process, but with doing another round potentially in less than 6 months from today, we didn’t want to force people to have to submit again.
- What is the process for evaluation for renewal for the programs?
 - This is work that takes several years and with sufficient funds, we would probably be tending toward 3-year grants, but then there would only be 1 or 2 on this list. We will be working with the Council and others determining the longer-term strategy of renewal and continued support once you start working with the community. We are trying to build and partner with the partnerships. This will be something that will be built over time and after we demonstrate success.

- One point worth sharing is that the Gate Foundation just announced a 4-year \$75 million initiative, so you have other resources that are going to come into the mix. You have other investors as well so over time you have organizations that have the possibility of being part of this approach going forward and willing to invest in these issues.
- We anticipate being able to provide additional partnership recommendation awards in early 2023, so this is a first slate.
- For partnership formation grant recommendation we are recommending:
 - The STEM Foundation in Benton County for \$125,000 maximum award
 - The idea put forward is to work together to create a 2-generation approach early on for credential attainment. They are talking about creating a culture of credential attainment and how they will start to operationalize this.
 - Yakima Valley Partners for Education in Yakima County for \$125,000 maximum award
 - Over 20 cross-sector partners looking at the cradle to career coming together. They have a grass roots and multilingual approach is to utilize and build momentum for high school graduation and increase post-secondary attainment in Yakima Valley.
- We see this as a catalyst investment to get these ideas going.
- How many applications do you think you will bring back to us?
 - There is a list of 2-3 more that we would bring back by February.
- If you get a Tier 1, it doesn't preclude you from getting a Tier 2 grant. There is no limitation but also it doesn't guarantee your acceptance.
- When would a partnership organization be able to get implementation funding, and will they have a special consideration?
 - There isn't a special consideration, but we would have the capacity to understand what they will deliver. We need to see results and progress from these grants. The partnership awardees will have a stronger ability to demonstrate and understand what they are doing. We don't want to fund and stop but we also want to make sure that if we are funding you, you have the capacity to deliver. We don't want to set anyone up for failure.

Approval of Tier 1 and Tier 2 recommendations for Regional Challenge Grants

Motion made to approval all recommendation for Tier 1 and Tier 2 Regional Challenge Grants.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

Indicators: Enrollment

Presenter: Michael Meotti and Kara Larson

Material: [Enrollment Data Encyclopedia](#)

Introduction: Discussion of key indicators associated with each of our 4 strategic cluster areas of affordability, enrollment, completion, and student supports with an equity disaggregation across all. Not merely a data question, this is a search for key indicators with a public engagement and galvanizing power, which is why they should be few in number. Meant to be a living, breathing document to be modified over time.

Comments, observations, and questions included:

- The missing piece as well look at the data around credentials and how to we get around that?
 - As we set key indicators, we have the notion that we have number on enrollment and traditional higher education for credit programs. There is going to be a bigger conversation of what we count towards attainment, and we are recommending recognizing and engaging the Council in what kinds of credentials might we want to add and is it available.
- The strategy recommendation we are giving you is that it's better to take the first step in using it instead of ending up chasing the goal. This means at some point we will have a strategic data development and technical data development.
- We will be developing a dashboard that includes all the indicators and we have a prototype for you to look at today. We want it to look good and be easy to use. We want to build it for extensibility and would like to publish sooner rather than later and build upon as we get more feedback or change tactics.
- The design is to construct it in 3 layers:
 - Layer 1: A high-level look at all key indicators (KPIs) in all four cluster areas
 - Pretend you are on the WSAC website and there is a link to the SAP (Strategic Action Plan) dashboard. You can use the navigation bar and there are Learn more buttons as well. This is layer 1.
 - There are four panels for each cluster area, a percentage change over the past year and trend line for each panel. The intermediate indicators are below in four boxes for each.
 - It does not mean that we need 5 indicators for each area. In some there may only be 3 or 4.
 - Layer 2: A more in-depth look at all KPIs in each cluster area with a focus on equity
 - As you click on the Learn more button this an example of what you would see specifically in the enrollment indicators. Theses boxes are what you saw in layer 1 but now we've got the trend and percentage change for each indicator with below a disaggregation by race and ethnicity.
 - A new functionality in layer 2 goes to the research reports page. To navigate to later 3 you would click on Explore the data button. The idea is that if we don't have a complete dashboard built for layer 3, it would take you to an external website where you could explore the data yourself.
 - This is out dashboard for the strategic action plan. Data will feed into this from external sites and is not WSAC sourced data. We will bring the data from whatever sources available.
 - Layer 3: A detailed look at all KPIs in each cluster area with multiple way to disaggregate
 - This is an interactive part of the dashboard. On the lefthand side is a list of indicators for demo purposes. You would select an indicator and could group it by demographics, sector, or level of institution. You could also filter it.
 - At the top there are different ways to view the data. There is a chart, map, table, or trend option you can click on.
 - There is also information on data downloading and citing.
- Listed are 12 indicators for enrollment and you must think of them, which 3-4 indicators are worth being in layer 1 of our dashboard.
 - Undergraduate enrollment headcount
 - Adult enrollment rate against total age populations in the same cohort
 - Adult with some college or no degree as a proportion of our target population of 25-44

- Transfer rate, the percentage of people leaving 2-year institutions and going to 4-year institutions
- Direct enrollment from high school rate within a year
- Non-direct enrollment from high school rate takes a further time frame into account
- High school dual enrollment rate is a measure of how many high school students are taking dual enrollment courses based dual enrollment being a precursor to enrollment in high education
- High school graduation rate
- High school seniors' GPA average that may or may not be an indicator of enrollment
- High School 10th graders who met ELA and/or Math proficiency
- High school students with regular attendance
- High school students with no suspensions/expulsions
- There is a rich K-12 data but there is not as rich adult data.
- We are going to do some online voting to see if there is a preexisting consensus when it comes to the key indicators.
- Which of these elements include students coming into or out of not-for-profit private colleges in the state? Public is a modifier on some of these but not on other.
 - A number of these are all inclusive and others are inheriting designed that way, but others may not be. We are relying heavily on the available data in the IPEDS or ERDC. Private institutions don't participate in ERDC so that is something we can explore moving forward with Isaac and/or Kara.
- On indicator E, is that within a one-year scope? Yes, it is within one year and how it's reported on the ERDC dashboard.
- Several students fall into the category of dual credit, one being CTE dual credit. There are other scenarios where students are enrolled in dual credit courses that don't amount to transferrable credit receiving courses. Is there a way to parse college credit earned and not college credit earned dual credit enrollment?
 - It may be the decision that it doesn't make the cut, but it needs to be on the top of our data development discussion or even though it's an inflated number it needs to be there.
 - This is a data collection issue. For example, we have 100 students enrolled in a dual credit course but only 30 are receiving university credits for those.
- For the ranking activity, we would like you select 1-5 indicators, with 1 being the most relevant indicator for you. Don't struggle too much with the sequency of rank of 2-5 as we won't presume that there isn't a value judgement except that number 1 is the top.
 - Participation of everyone in the meeting is requested, not just the Council Members.
 - We will then take these results into a conversation and revisit what we talked about today and that cluster group would bring it back to the Council for formal approval and then would continue with the other clusters.
 - The results are as follows for the enrollment indicators:
 - Undergraduate enrollment headcount
 - Direct enrollment from high school rate
 - Adult enrollment rate (ages 25-44 with some college, no degree or less)
 - High school graduate rate
 - Proportion of adults with some college, no degree or less

- This exercise shows the power of testing for certain amount of consensus that may lurk below the surface and might frame the conversation moving forward. This won't be the only chance to share thoughts on this process.
 - Let's come back with our data development agenda.
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Public Comment

See Appendix

Meeting Adjourned: 11:04am

Appendix ATVW meeting recording**Appendix B**

- 09:00:46 From Lindsay Cunningham (she/her) WSAC to Waiting Room Participants:
Thank you for joining us today. We will admit you shortly.
- 09:01:32 From Michael Meotti to Everyone:
I'm in an office in Manhattan and just got the dreaded "unstable internet connection" warning....not expecting a problem but just letting you know....don't wait much if you lose me
- 09:05:53 From Lindsay Cunningham (she/her) WSAC to Everyone:
Welcome. Please use the chat feature to introduce yourself.
- 09:06:07 From Lindsay Cunningham (she/her) WSAC to Everyone:
My name is Lindsay Cunningham (she/her) WSAC staff.
- 09:06:23 From Abby Chien she/her to Everyone:
Good Morning! Abby Chien, WSAC Staff on the Policy & Planning Team
- 09:06:27 From Heather Hudson to Everyone:
Good morning! Heather Hudson (She/her), Director of Policy at WSAC
- 09:06:28 From Michael Meotti to Everyone:
Mike Meotti, Executive Director of WSAC
- 09:06:39 From Ben Small to Everyone:
Good Morning! Ben Small Executive Director of LaunchNW
- 09:06:53 From Rathi Sudhakara to Everyone:
Good morning! Rathi Sudhakara (she/her) Legislative Liaison and Policy Associate, WSAC
- 09:06:58 From KC Deane to Everyone:
Hello! KC Deane (she/her), Associate Director of Research and Program Evaluation, WSAC
- 09:07:01 From Inez Olive to Everyone:
Good Morning, Inez Olive (she/her), WSAC Staff
- 09:07:04 From Emma Ahern to Everyone:
Hello! Emma Ahern (she/her), Policy Associate/Legislative Liason, WSAC
- 09:07:14 From Katie Tallman to Everyone:
Good morning, Katie Tallman (she/her), WSAC Communications
- 09:07:15 From Abbey Roth to Everyone:
Good morning! Abbey Roth (she/her), Assistant Director, Policy and Planning at WSAC
- 09:07:27 From Dr. Tafona Ervin to Everyone:
Good Morning, All. Tafona Ervin with the Foundation for Tacoma Students. Happy Holidays!
- 09:07:39 From Sam Loftin to Everyone:
Good morning! Sam Loftin (he/him), Director of Consumer Protection at WSAC
- 09:07:43 From Valerie Sundby to Everyone:
Good morning! Val Sundby, Director of Transfer at the SBCTC
- 09:08:00 From Christina Winstead (she/her) WSAC to Everyone:
Good morning everyone! Christina Winstead (she/her), Associate Director for the College Access Initiatives team.
- 09:08:20 From Dr. Christine Moloney to Everyone:
Good Morning from Dr. Christine Moloney Chehalis School District Superintendent
- 09:08:24 From Kara Larson to Everyone:
Hello, all! Kara Larson, WSAC staff, Research division
- 09:08:32 From Amelia Moore to Everyone:

Good morning everyone! Amelia Moore, Strategy & Engagement Manager with the City of Seattle's Department of Education & Early Learning

09:08:33 From Danica Mitchell to Everyone:

Good morning! Danica Mitchell (she/her), WA529 Data Analyst at WSAC

09:08:43 From Terri Standish-Kuon (she, her) | Independent Colleges of WA to Everyone:

Thank you for your leadership, Jeff and Sativah!!

09:09:23 From J. Lee Schultz to Everyone:

Good morning, everyone! J. Lee Schultz, Director of Advocacy and Engagement with the State Board of Education

09:09:28 From Hannah Lodwick to Everyone:

Morning, all! Hannah Lodwick, Policy Associate WSAC Policy and Planning, working closely with the Regional Challenge Grant (she/her)

09:09:34 From Deb Bowen to Everyone:

Greetings! Deb Bowen, Executive Director, The STEM Foundation, Mid-Columbia STEM Network and Career Connect Southeast.

09:10:53 From Alicia Kinne-Clawson to Everyone:

Alicia Kinne-Clawson, committee coordinator for the Senate Higher Ed and Workforce Development committee

09:15:22 From Brian Jeffries to Everyone:

Good Morning! Brian Jeffries, Policy Director, Washington Roundtable/Partnership for Learning. Happy Holidays!

09:21:26 From Lindsay Cunningham (she/her) WSAC to Everyone:

Regional Challenge Grant Overview: <https://wsac.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-12-16-0241-Regional-Challenge-Grant-Overview.pdf>

Regional Challenge Grant Recommendations: <https://wsac.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-12-16-0242-Regional-Challenge-Grant-Recommendations.pdf>

09:21:35 From Carlina Brown-Banks to Everyone:

Good morning Carlina CCER Sr Director of Antiracist Engagement

09:21:42 From Sativah Jones to Everyone:

Thank you WSAC Staff! Amazing work! We appreciate you all.

09:21:48 From Paul Francis to Everyone:

Thank you to the WSAC team - we appreciate you!

09:27:59 From Hannah Lodwick to Everyone:

A want to send a big thank you to Danica Mitchell, Data Analyst for her hard work on the heat maps!

09:29:26 From Danica Mitchell to Everyone:

Thank you Hannah, Heather, and team for the opportunity to collaborate on this.

09:31:27 From Michael Meotti to Everyone:

process direction:

09:32:09 From Michael Meotti to Everyone:

1) program grants will be done on an annual basis going forward, timed to most common fiscal year of July 1 - June 30

09:32:38 From Michael Meotti to Everyone:

2) partnership formation grants can be taken up on a rolling basis throughout the year if that seems to work for the Council and applicants

09:33:05 From Abby Chien she/her to Everyone:

<https://wsac.wa.gov/challenge-grants>

For those interested in our prior information sessions, our 2021 Legislative Report and subsequent appendices show the incredible amount of stakeholder engagement (see appendix B)!

https://wsac.wa.gov/sites/default/files/FINAL%20-%202022.RCG_.LegislativeReport.pdf

https://wsac.wa.gov/sites/default/files/FINAL%20-%202022.RCG_.LegislativeReport.Appendices.pdf

09:49:11 From Michael Meotti to Everyone:

the LOI approved by the Council spoke to innovation....which means that we won't recommend proposals that are additive or gap filling to existing work....

09:58:34 From Paul Francis to Everyone:

I'm happy to see that both of these recommendations involve entities in eastern WA.

10:07:01 From Ben Small to Everyone:

Thank You! WSAC Staff.

10:07:35 From Heather Hudson to Everyone:

Congrats to all awardees for this first cycle!

10:07:39 From Jeff Charbonneau to Everyone:

Thank you staff! And congratulations to all the partnering organizations!

10:08:28 From Dr. Christine Moloney to Everyone:

Thank you so much from Chehalis!! We are incredibly honored and excited to move forward with this grant for our students and our community.

10:08:35 From Brian Jeffries to Everyone:

Congratulations to all awardees! Well done, everyone. Very exciting and important work.

10:08:37 From Suzy Diaz to Everyone:

On behalf of the students and families we serve, YVPE is grateful and excited for this funding opportunity to bring higher education and workforce options into the hands of the communities we serve. Thank you.

10:09:52 From Dr. Tafona Ervin to Everyone:

On behalf of the greater Tacoma region and our efforts to strengthen the successful transition of postsecondary pathways, thank you Council. We are deeply appreciative and look forward to improving conditions, increasing postsecondary degree attainment, and deepening our partnership with you all for years to come!

10:09:53 From Ruben Flores to Everyone:

Congrats All!!

10:10:07 From julia Abuhelal to Everyone:

Congratulations to all awardees! This is incredibly exciting! 🥳

10:10:49 From Lindsay Cunningham (she/her) WSAC to Everyone:

Indicators: Enrollment <https://wsac.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-12-16-0341-Enrollment-Data-Encyclopedia.pdf>

10:42:27 From Brian Jeffries to Everyone:

While it may not be available with clarity at this time, my org would like to see the dual enrollment indicator to include only the rate at which K-12 student earn college credit in a dual enrollment course. The current definition is unhelpful given that it captures students enrolled in courses in which college credit is available (even though students may not actually earn the college credit). This gives an over-inflated sense of dual credit.

10:47:56 From Heather Hudson to Everyone:

also consider how dual credit indicators may show up in other clusters

10:49:16 From Brian Jeffries to Everyone:

Thank you, Ruben and Jeff. Your comments captured my issue concisely and accurately. Much appreciated.

10:50:25 From Ruben Flores to Everyone:



10:52:07 From Kara Larson to Everyone:

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7142203/enrollment>

11:04:40 From Sativah Jones to Everyone:

This work is going to change the trajectory for so many Washington students, job well done!

Happy Holidays!

11:04:43 From julia Abuhelal to Everyone:

Thank you for allowing me to be here it was very informative. Happy Holidays everyone.

11:04:45 From Lindsay Cunningham (she/her) WSAC to Everyone:

Thank you all for attending today.

11:04:49 From Abbey Roth (she/her) to Everyone:

Thank you, and happy holidays to all!