

# Programs and Services Committee

Tuesday, 10.00 – 11.00 am  
Centennial F

## Agenda

Programs and Services Committee Minutes – May 2002

Tuesday, November 12, 2002

10.00 – 11.00 am  
Centennial F

Programs and Services Committee

Committee Members

Diane Barrans, (AK), committee chair  
Phil Dubois (WY), committee vice chair  
Tad Perry (SD), ex officio  
Chuck Ruch (ID), ex officio

John Haeger (AZ)  
Herbert Medina (CA)  
Bill Byers (CO)  
Raymond Ono (HI)  
Gary Stivers (ID)  
Emily Stonington (MT)  
Carl Shaff (NV)  
Bruce Hamlett (NM)  
Larry Isaak (ND)  
Camille Preus-Braly (OR)  
James O. Hansen (SD)  
George Mantes (UT)  
Debora Merle (WA)

Agenda

**Call to Order:** Diane Barrans, Chair



Minutes of the May 20, 2002, Committee Meeting

**Information Items:**

1. NEON – the Northwest Educational Outreach Network

WICHE and Northwest Academic Forum have received a three-year Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) grant of \$616,000 to develop a multistate electronic consortium, NEON. Staff will provide an overview of the key elements of the project and the partners' roles.

2. WICHE's Student Exchange Program (SEP) Updates – Jere Mock and Sandy Jackson

- a. Status of the certifying officers subcommittee on support fees
- b. The Western Undergraduate Exchange electronic enrollment reporting process
- c. Student Exchange Program Publications

3. WICHE's Legislative Advisory Committee – Jere Mock
4. The American TelEdCommunications Alliance – Jere Mock

# ACTION ITEM

## Programs and Services Committee Minutes

### May 20, 2002

#### Committee Members Present

Phil Dubois (WY), vice chair  
Chuck Ruch (ID), ex officio

William F. Byers (CO)  
Raymond Ono (HI)  
Gary Stivers (ID)  
Emily Stonington (MT)  
Carl Shaff (NV)  
Bruce Hamlett (NM)  
Larry Isaak (ND)  
Camille Preus-Braly (OR)  
David Gienapp (SD)  
E. George Mantes (UT)

#### Other Commissioners Present

Linda Blessing (AZ)  
Dick Crofts (MT)  
Don Carlson (WA)  
Jenne Lee Twiford (WY)  
Diane Vines (OR)

#### Guests Present

Stephanie Butler, certifying officer (AK)  
Phyllis Brecher, staff, Health Services,  
University of Wyoming (WY)  
Louise Cavatta, certifying officer (NM)  
Vicki Falsgraf, certifying officer (OR)  
David Iha, certifying officer (HI)  
Bob Kelley, certifying officer (WY)  
Louise Lynch, certifying officer (AZ)  
Lance Perryman, dean, College of  
Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical  
Sciences, Colorado State University  
(CO)

#### WICHE Staff

Sandy Jackson  
Jere Mock  
Marv Myers  
Carol Wimert

Committee Vice Chair Phil Dubois opened the meeting and asked the committee members to review the first action item, minutes of the November 13, 2001, committee meeting. Committee members approved the minutes as presented.

Dubois asked the committee members to review the second action item: Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP) support fees for FY 2003-2004 and FY 2004-2005. The action item proposes increasing the PSEP support fees by 4 percent in Group A and 3 percent in Group B for each year of the biennium, 2003-2004 and 2004-2005. It also seeks approval to increase the support fee base for the physician assistant field by \$1,000 in the first year of the biennium, in addition to the 4 percent increase in support fees.

Jere Mock opened the discussion on the action item by providing information on the process used to establish the support fee recommendations. She said input was requested over a two-month period and preliminary staff recommendations were distributed to all the deans and chairs of PSEP, WICHE certifying officers, members of the Student Exchange Program Advisory Committee (SEPAC), and the Veterinary Medicine Advisory Committee (VMAC). During a SEPAC conference call on April 25, 2002, members endorsed the staff recommendations. On May 19, the certifying officers met and spent a lot of time discussing the support fees.

The certifying officers approved the support fees increase of 4 percent in Group A and 3 percent in Group B fields, with an additional \$1,000 increase in the support fee base for physician assistants in the first year of the biennium. Six states approved the recommendation (AZ, CO, HI, NM, ND, and UT), five

states abstained from the vote (AK, MT, NV, OR, and WY), and Idaho, South Dakota and Washington were not represented at the meeting. There was a lot of discussion around whether the states can support the recommendations because of the current difficult fiscal situations many states are experiencing. As a result of these issues, the certifying officers suggested that a subcommittee of that group be created to begin a field-by-field review of the support fees and to develop recommendations on the support fee process. Their recommendations would be reviewed by SEPAC and the WICHE Commission over the next year. The states that have asked to be represented on this subcommittee include Arizona, Hawaii, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, and Utah.

Dubois questioned whether there has been discussion about developing a standard ratio for the support fees relative to the nonresident tuitions at participating institutions. Mock responded that in many cases the differential between nonresident tuition and resident tuition plus the WICHE support fee has disappeared. It will be necessary to look at this approach field by field.

Carl Shaff made a motion to approve the suggested increase in support fees as well as the establishment of a subcommittee of certifying officers to review fields and provide input to SEPAC prior to the next round of recommendations for PSEP support fees. Raymond Ono seconded the motion.

Don Carlson asked if it might be wise to reexamine the 2004-2005 support fees in early 2003. Dubois said institutions need to know in advance what the levels of support will be so they can budget ahead. He thought the logical consequence is there will be a reduction in slots whether the fees are approved now or in 2003.

Larry Isaak asked what the downside would be of allowing states flexibility with regard to moving fees up and down. Mock answered that this is one model that will likely be discussed by the newly formed certifying officers subcommittee, but she also mentioned that the Programs and Services subcommittee recently reviewed PSEP and support fees and the group recommended maintaining a regional, rather than a state-by-state, approach for the support fees.

The committee members voted unanimously to approve the recommended increases in support fees for the next biennium (2003-2004 and 2004-2005).

Dubois asked Mock to review the next action item, the FY 2002-03 work plan for Programs and Services. Mock reviewed the draft plan and provided additional information on the following: (1) new programs that have been approved for the Western Regional Graduate Program; (2) the status of the Northwest Academic Forum's efforts to establish the Northwest Educational Outreach Network; (3) the American TelEd Communications Alliance; (4) plans to develop workforce briefs; and (5) expanding the approach of using professional advisory councils. There was unanimous endorsement of the workplan.

Dubois asked Chuck Ruch to provide an overview of the work accomplished by the Programs and Services subcommittee in their review of the Student Exchange Programs. Ruch suggested that committee members review the background information located in the agenda book, paying particular attention to the sections headed "For Commission Consideration." The subcommittee is not recommending changes to any of the three programs. Mock added that when Commission Chair Tad Perry appointed this subcommittee, in addition to his charge to committee members to take a look at the existing programs, he asked that they also look at what is going on in the region in terms of the nursing shortage and how WICHE might become more active in addressing collaborative academic planning. She provided an update on the steps taken to address these issues.

Dubois commented that when he looks at the WUE data for Wyoming, there is a one-to-one match of students entering and leaving the state, but when you break it down you see that most of the students who leave Wyoming as WUE students go to four-year institutions and most of the students who come in to Wyoming through the program go to two-year institutions. Mock added that one challenge with

providing an enrollment analysis is that WICHE has not tracked students' names but instead has tracked student numbers. A new online reporting process is being initiated for WUE that allows institutions to report student names and contact information, but providing this information will be voluntary. Ruch asked that members review the Programs and Services subcommittee's background paper in the agenda book.

## Program Updates

Sandy Jackson provided a brief update on the status of the certifying officers' meeting and the upcoming veterinary medicine advisory council meeting. Mock informed attendees that the annual WUE enrollment report has been completed and sent to the state higher education executive offices in WICHE states as well as to institutions that participate in WUE; it is also available on the WICHE Web site. Mock also said that the WICHE Legislative Advisory Committee will meet in Lake Tahoe on July 19 in conjunction with annual meeting of the Council of State Governments-WEST (CSG-WEST). The current roster of Legislative Advisory Committee members was distributed.

Don Carlson expressed his concern that CSG did not mention WICHE in their preconference program. Emily Stonington asked Mock what her sense is of how to build a better relationship with CSG. Mock responded that a unique situation will exist next year in that the chair-elect for CSG is Sen. Brian Taniguchi from Hawaii. Sen. Taniguchi has served on the advisory committee for the Student Exchange Programs and is a member of the Legislative Advisory Committee. Ruch asked if it would be fair to enter the negotiations by offering CSG the opportunity to do a concurrent session at a WICHE Commission meeting. Mock thought that this was a good suggestion. The meeting was adjourned.