What’s Up in Higher Education in the West

July 19, 2004

WICHE Legislative Advisory Committee

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What’s Up in the West – Lots!

- Finance
- Access
- Quality / Innovation
- Workforce Development
- Accountability
Accountability

- Nationally
  - Federally, The House has weighed in *heavily*
  - Nationally, SHEEO has this issue front and center – very high profile
- California
  - Final Accountability Report has been presented and is being considered
  - Systems, however, are progressing separately with Governor
- Colorado
  - New Colorado Opportunity Fund calls for *Performance contracts with all public institutions*
accountability continued

- Nevada
  - Legislative Interim Committee examining efficiency and effectiveness of Nevada higher education, today and tomorrow
- New Mexico
  - Governor has called together a blue ribbon panel to look at how higher education can better serve the state
- North Dakota
  - Surviving leadership change
- Utah
  - Legislature and Regents working together in *the interim* on finance and accountability in higher education
- Washington
  - Master planning – continuing to be crafted
Access / Opportunity

Demographics – Who’s That Knocking At The Door?

The Demand:

- Growth in West exceeds the Rest
  - Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, & Utah lead
- Not every state fits the mold
  - N.Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, & S.Dakota lead the projected declines.
- West will be majority minority by 2008-2009
The Supply (Where will they go?):

- Recognized constraints
  - California and Washington
- Unrecognized constraints
  - Rumors abound
- Positive policy responses
  - Nevada State College
  - California transfer guarantee
  - Arizona “Changing Directions”, if possible
access continued

The International Perspective:
- Visas – A significant issue
- U.S., Mexico, Canada Exchange -- CONAHEC
Percent Change in Number of Hispanic Public H.S. Grads in the WICHE States, 2001-02 (actual) and 2013-14 (projected)

Loss of -1% to -25%
Increase of 1% to 25%
Increase of 26% to 50%
Increase of 51% to 100%
Increase over 101%
CONAHEC Member Institutions in the WICHE States (April 2004)

- Pierce College
- University of Montana
- Dickinson State University
- Northern State University
- South Dakota Board of Regents
- Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
- Community Colleges of Colorado
- Arizona State University
- University of Arizona
- Border Trade Alliance
- Arizona State University
- University of Arizona
- Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities
- University of San Francisco
- San Jose State University
- CSU - Monterey Bay
- California State Polytechnic University - Pomona
- Santa Monica College
- Southwestern College
- CSU - San Marcos
- National University
- San Diego Community College District
- Alliant International University
- National University
- San Diego Community College District
- Alliant International University
CONAHEC Members Participating in the North American Student Exchange Program

- Pierce College
- Dickinson State University
- Northern State University
- South Dakota Board of Regents
- Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
- Community Colleges of Colorado
- Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities
- University of San Francisco
- San Jose State University
- CSU - Monterey Bay
- California State Polytechnic University - Pomona
- Santa Monica College
- Southwestern College
- CSU - San Marcos
- National University
- San Diego Community College District
- Alliant International University
- University of Montana
- Dickinson State University
- Northern State University
- South Dakota Board of Regents
- Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
- Community Colleges of Colorado
- University of New Mexico
- Eastern New Mexico University
- New Mexico State University
- Border Trade Alliance
- Arizona State University
- University of Arizona
Financing Higher Education

- Finance Policy:
  - New stuff:
    - The radical departure from standard practice – Colorado
    - Washington’s workforce development slot funding -- Maybe even funding results
  - Changing Direction:
    - Arizona – the poster child
    - Oregon – we’ll see
    - Hawaii and Idaho – the new entrants
    - Next year – who knows
financing continued

- Finance Practice  -- Tuition and fees
  - Up, up, and away
  - Lowest increase in dollars and percents – Wyoming/two and four year institutions (inflation plus a little)
    - Highest
      - In dollars: ?
      - In percent: Arizona – 4 times inflation
Financial aid – *to need or not to need, that is the question.*

- Need leads in:
  - Oregon
  - Maybe New Mexico

- Non-need trumps need in South Dakota
- Washington and Arizona love them both
financing continued

- Institutional support
  - Where we are today  ???
  - But, the story continues
    - Colorado voucher could be reduced by 1/3
    - Washington Sales Tax Increase could make the difference
    - Oregon must do something, but “can’t”
    - Nevada – the death tax dilemma
    - New Mexico – one time money may exist
Other significant issues/activities

- Privatization versus the Public Good
  - In theory:
    - Free-market principles should rule
    - Free-market is fine, if affordable, but first obligation is to “our own”
    - Public means public
  - In practice:
    - Colorado voucher
    - Oregon financial aid
    - Washington workforce development slots
other stuff continued

- Governance – Many stories/Many SHEEOs
  - An issue in California, Colorado, Idaho, and Oregon.
  - Stable SHEEO positions: Recent Changes – Arizona, California, Colorado, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah, and Washington

- K-16 initiatives
  - Montana – statewide initiative
  - Nevada – the American Diploma Project
  - California – the Governor’s threat to early intervention has been retracted