

WICHE

ALASKA

ARIZONA

CALIFORNIA

COLORADO

HAWAI'I

IDAHO

MONTANA

NEVADA

NEW MEXICO

NORTH DAKOTA

OREGON

SOUTH DAKOTA

UTAH

U.S. PACIFIC TERRITORIES
& FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES

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WYOMING

WICHE

Workplan

2017



www.wiche.edu

WICHE Workplan FY 2017

WICHE and its 16 member states and territories work collaboratively to expand educational access and excellence for their citizens. By promoting innovation, cooperation, resource sharing, and sound public policy, WICHE strengthens higher education's contributions to our social, economic, and civic life.

The 48-member WICHE Commission, appointed by the governors of the member states and territories, approves the workplan's focus areas and reviews and authorizes staff to conduct projects and initiatives in support of each area. The commissioners are surveyed to solicit their ideas for future projects.

WICHE's 16 members include Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawai'i, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, and the U.S. Pacific territories and freely associated states (the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is the first to participate).

Focus Areas. In FY 2017 WICHE's four units – Programs and Services, Policy Analysis and Research, Mental Health Program, and WCET – will strive to assist our members' institutions and students, focusing on five areas.

- Finance: Examining appropriations, tuition, and financial aid policy and practice at the institutional, state, and federal levels.
- Access & Success: Improving students' access to and success in higher education, especially those students who haven't been served well in the past.
- Workforce & Society: Helping to ensure our institutions are meeting workforce and society needs.
- Technology & Innovation: Developing innovations that improve higher education and lower costs.
- Accountability: Working to ensure that students receive the education they've been promised, and that government is receiving a strong return on its investment.

Workplan Activities. Our work for FY 2017, our potential projects for the future, and our recently completed projects are organized according to the following categories.

- Existing Activities: Our current work, divided into two types:
 - Ongoing Activities: Continuing work that supports WICHE's mission, supported by the general fund or fees.
 - Projects & Initiatives: Continuing (or new) work supported by grants and contracts.
- New Directions: Commissioner-approved projects for which staff is seeking funding.
- Potential Future Projects: Work that staff is considering pursuing (and bringing to the commission for approval). Also listed are projects that staff previously considered pursuing but now proposes to remove from the workplan.
- Completed Projects: Work that staff finished in FY 2016.

Priority. In the FY 2017 workplan, as per commissioners' request, Existing Activities are not given a priority ranking since they are initiatives that WICHE staff is committed to accomplishing. New Directions are prioritized by mission relevance, opportunity, and staff competence. Potential Future Projects are under consideration and have not been commissioner-approved; therefore, they are not prioritized.

Programs & Services

The primary goals of the Programs and Services unit are to improve student access and success and to foster higher education collaborations that increase institutional effectiveness. Programs and Services manages WICHE’s four-pronged Student Exchange Program and a number of other initiatives that help institutions and students – undergraduate, graduate, and professional – save money and make good use of available resources. The unit also oversees projects that bring together the West’s higher education leaders to work toward common goals, assists in smoothing the transfer process, links students with next-generation learning opportunities, and helps institutions to achieve cost savings through collaborative purchasing.

EXISTING ACTIVITIES ONGOING

Continuing work supported by the general fund or by fees. All work in this category is considered high-priority.

Project	Focus	Geo Scope	Staffing	Partners
Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)	Access & success; workforce & society	Western	1.05 FTE	All WICHE member states; 160 institutions
Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP)	Access & success; workforce & society	Western	1.05 FTE	All WICHE members, except CA, CNMI, ID, OR, SD, and WA; 127 programs at 53 institutions
Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP)	Access & success; workforce & society	Western	1.05 FTE	All WICHE member states; 383 programs
WICHE Internet Course Exchange	Access & success; technology & innovation	National	.05 FTE and consultants	2 consortia serving 36 institutions
Student Exchange Program database upgrades and enhancements	Access & success; workforce and society; technology	Western	.20 FTE	All WICHE member states
Western Academic Leadership Forum	Access & success; accountability	Western	.35 FTE	All WICHE member states except HI; 48 institutions, 9 systems
Western Alliance of Community College Academic Leaders	Access & success; accountability	Western	.30 FTE	All WICHE member states; 72 institutions
Academic Leaders Toolkit	Access & success	Western	(included in Forum and Alliance FTE)	Forum and Alliance members
Western Academic Leadership Academy	Workforce & society; accountability	Western	.12 FTE and consultants	Forum members
MHECare	Access & success; finance	WICHE/MHEC/NEBHE states	.10 FTE	MHEC/Mercer/United HealthCare Student Resources, 3 states: AK; CA; CO; 6 institutions; several prospects
Master Property Program	Finance	WICHE/MHEC/NEBHE/SREB states	.05 FTE	MHEC/Marsh/carriers, 8 states: AZ; CO; ID; NV; OR; UT; WA; WY
MHECtech	Finance	WICHE/MHEC/SREB states	.10 FTE	All WICHE member states

Project	Focus	Geo Scope	Staffing	Partners
WICHE website, print and electronic communications, media relations	All 5 focus areas	Western/U.S.	2.0 FTE + consultant	All WICHE member states
Conversion of WICHE's constituent relations database to Salesforce	All 5 focus areas	Western/U.S.	.20 FTE	All WICHE member states

**EXISTING ACTIVITIES
PROJECTS & INITIATIVES**

Continuing (or new) work supported by grants or contracts. All work in this category is considered high-priority.

Project	Focus	Geo Scope	Funding	Staffing	Timeline	Partners
Interstate Passport Phases II & III	Access & success; innovation	National	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (\$1,647,733) and Lumina Foundation (\$1,199,953); U.S. Department of Education First in the World (\$2,999,482)	3.46 FTE + consultants	10/6/2014 - 9/30/2016 for Gates and Lumina grants; 10/1/2015-9/30/2019 for First in the World grant	100+ institutions in 11 WICHE and 5 other states
Implementation of the WICHE State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (W-SARA)	Access & success; technology & innovation	Western	Est. FY 2017 Fee: Rev: \$544,680 Est. FY 2017 Expenses: \$323,654	WICHE SARA: 1.5 FTE	Ongoing	Regionally: State members and participating institutions that pay annual dues Nationally: NC-SARA, MHEC, NEBHE, SREB
The Compact for Faculty Diversity National Research Mentoring Network	Access & success	National	National Institutes of Health (\$249,858)	.20 FTE	7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017	SREB; National Mentoring Network

Interstate Passport Initiative. In Phase II, the Interstate Passport Initiative is creating and implementing a new framework for block transfer of lower-division general education based on student learning outcomes and transfer-level proficiency criteria to streamline and accelerate the transfer process for students. In Phase III, the Initiative is building a student tracking system, conducting a pilot initiative to map critical assignments to learning outcomes, implementing a marketing campaign, and conducting a robust project evaluation.

Implementation of the WICHE State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (W-SARA). WICHE and the other three regional education compacts are administering SARAs so that any institution offering distance education may

acquire authorization from its home state to enable it to operate in other participating states. The National Council is coordinating inter-regional activities.

The **Compact for Faculty Diversity National Research Mentoring Network** is a nationwide consortium to enhance the training and career development of underrepresented minority individuals who are pursuing biomedical, behavioral, clinical, and social science research careers through enhanced networking, mentorship, and career development experiences. As a funded member of the consortium, WICHE (the sub-award fiscal agent) is partnering with staff of the SREB to expand its network of mentors who will assist underrepresented minority undergraduates, as well as master’s, graduate, doctoral, and postdoctoral students and early-career faculty members, in developing and furthering their research careers in academe, business, and industry. These activities will expand and enhance the Compact for Faculty Diversity’s highly successful annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring.

NEW DIRECTIONS

Commissioner-approved projects for which staff is actively seeking funding, prioritized as follows:

- ★ = Urgency (mission critical) ★ = low, ★★ = medium, ★★★ = high
- = Opportunity (funding) ● = low, ●● = medium, ●●● = high
- = Competence (staff/consultants) ■ = low, ■■ = medium, ■■■ = high

Project Title	Focus	Priority	Geo Scope	Funding	Staffing	Timeline	Partners
North American Network of Science Labs Online: ScienceLabReady	Access & success; innovation	★★★ ●●● ■■■	International	Currently seeking funding at \$1.8 million level	1.75 FTE	TBD	Great Falls College - MSU (MT), and North Island College, British Columbia

North American Network of Science Labs Online: ScienceLabReady. Targeting students in the summer before they enroll in science courses at community colleges, NANSLO’s new science prep course, if funded, will feature an innovative and relevant skill-building curriculum centered on the use of lab activities via NANSLO’s web-based, robotically controlled equipment and other modalities to increase student success and retention in STEM courses and programs.

Previously considered projects we propose to remove from the workplan. None.

POTENTIAL FUTURE PROJECTS

Work that staff is considering pursuing and bringing to the commission for approval, along with ideas generated by the survey of commissioners.

A Convening to Examine the Impact of Western Demographic Changes on Current and Future Academic Programs, Curriculum, and Student Services. *Focus areas: access & success; technology & innovation.* In collaboration with the Policy Analysis and Research, WCET, and Mental Health staffs, we will seek approval to solicit external funding to bring together policymakers, institutional leaders, and other relevant constituencies to examine how higher education can be more responsive to the West’s changing demography through its array of existing and planned academic programs, curriculum enhancements, and expanded student services. The implications of demographic changes for the future workforce will also be addressed, with emphasis placed on working with institutions to provide academic programs that address the needs of an aging, and increasingly ethnically diverse population.

Work that staff finished in FY 2016.

Consortium for Healthcare Education Online (CHEO). Eight community colleges in five WICHE states created new (or transformed existing) allied health courses for delivery in an online or hybrid format, incorporating new, web-based experiments designed by NANSLO. WICHE coordinated the NANSLO work and provided professional development for project partners.

Bridges to the Professoriate provided National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)-Minority Access to Research and Careers' (MARC) predoctoral fellows with opportunities to participate in the annual Compact for Faculty Diversity's Institute on Teaching and Mentoring, helping them to gain skills needed in doctoral programs and academic careers. Annual funding was provided to WICHE, a total of \$3,511,750 over the past 16 years, to support the attendance of NIGMS' MARC fellows at the Institute on Teaching and Mentoring and associated professional development activities.

Policy Analysis and Research

The Policy Analysis and Research unit offers a variety of policy and information resources to support better-informed decision making, principally at the state level. The unit is involved in a number of research projects and collaborative initiatives that focus on college completion, adult learners, and multistate data-sharing to support educational planning and workforce development. WICHE staff serves as a useful resource on a number of higher education issues, including state and federal financial aid, finance, articulation and transfer, the Common Core State Standards, and various college completion initiatives. The unit's publication series, including *Policy Insights* and *Western Policy Exchanges*, explores a wide range of significant policy issues. The unit also undertakes major, long-term grant-funded projects, collaborates with other regional and national organizations, and provides short-term technical assistance to members.

EXISTING ACTIVITIES ONGOING

Continuing work supported by the general fund or by fees. All work in this category is considered high-priority.

Project	Focus	Geo Scope	Staffing	Partners
Tuition and Fees in Public Higher Education in the West	Finance	Western	.025 FTE	All WICHE members
Legislative Advisory Committee	Finance, access & success, workforce & society, technology & innovation, accountability	Western	.10 FTE	All WICHE members
State Higher Education Policy Database	Finance, access & success, workforce & society, technology & innovation, accountability	National	.20 FTE	National Conference of State Legislatures, Lumina Foundation
Policy Publications Clearinghouse	Finance, access & success, workforce & society, technology & innovation, accountability	National	.025 FTE	N/A
Benchmarks	Accountability	Western	.025 FTE	N/A
Regional Fact Book for Higher Education in the West	Accountability	Western	.025 FTE	N/A
<i>Policy Insights</i>	Finance, access & success, workforce & society, technology & innovation, accountability	National	.05 FTE	N/A
<i>Western Policy Exchanges</i>	Finance, access & success, workforce & society, technology & innovation, accountability	Western	.05 FTE	N/A

**EXISTING ACTIVITIES
PROJECTS & INITIATIVES**

Continuing (or new) work supported by grants or contracts. All work in this category is considered high-priority.

Project	Focus	Geo Scope	Funding	Staffing	Timeline	Partners
Adult College Completion Network	Access & success; workforce & society	National	Lumina Foundation: \$1,133,800	1.65 FTE	10/2010 - 9/2015	Lumina Foundation
College Access Challenge Grant (CACG) Consortium	Access & success	Western states	State memoranda of agreement/ U.S. Dept. of Education: Year 7 revenue, \$120,000	.70 FTE	Year 7 ends 8/2016	2 Consortium states (AK, ID)
South Dakota Board of Regents: State-Funded Financial Aid Redesign	Finance	Western	South Dakota Board of Regents: \$30,000	.35 FTE	1/2016 - 9/2016	South Dakota Board of Regents
University of Hawai'i: Analysis of University of Hawai'i Graduates	Accountability; workforce & society	Western	University of Hawai'i: \$30,000	.15 FTE	1/2016 - 12/2017	University of Hawai'i
<i>Knocking at the College Door: Projections of High School Graduates</i>	Access & success	National	ACT, College Board: \$350,000	1.0 FTE	1/2016 - 12/2017	ACT, College Board
Multistate Longitudinal Data Exchange	Workforce & society; access & success; accountability	Western, expanding nationally	Gates Foundation, \$5,000,000	2.5 FTE in Year 2	8/2014 - 7/2018	Original states (HI, ID, OR, WA) Expansion states, SAS

College Access Challenge Grant Consortium. For seven years, states have participated in the CACG Consortium, in which WICHE works closely with each state to administer its federally funded formula grant program, designed to increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enroll and succeed in postsecondary education. This is the final year of federal funding for Alaska and Idaho, so work will be ending in August 2016.

South Dakota Board of Regents Contract. WICHE is examining how the state might develop a strategy for the redesign of state-funded financial aid programs.

University of Hawai'i Contract. WICHE is conducting an analysis of University of Hawai'i graduates who work in other states, and an analysis of Hawai'i high school students who go to universities in other states and their work patterns.

Knocking at the College Door: Projections of High School Graduates. The Policy Analysis and Research unit (and its predecessors) has been producing state-by-state forecasts for high school graduates for over 30 years, during which time it has become the nation's most widely consulted resource of its kind for a diverse audience of policymakers, enrollment managers, college counselors, schools and school districts, researchers, and the media. Staff has begun working on the 9th edition and will release the new projections in December 2016.

The **Multistate Longitudinal Data Exchange (MLDE)** project is a follow-up to WICHE's successful pilot project, both of which are aimed at stitching together state longitudinal data systems in order to better track the development of human capital through K-12 and postsecondary education and its deployment in the workforce, while accounting for individual mobility.

NEW DIRECTIONS

Commissioner-approved projects for which staff is actively seeking funding, prioritized as follows:

- ★ = Urgency (mission critical)
- = Opportunity (funding)
- = Competence (staff/consultants)

- ★ = low, ★★ = medium, ★★★ = high
- = low, ●● = medium, ●●● = high
- = low, ■■ = medium, ■■■ = high

Project Title	Focus	Priority	Geo Scope	Funding	Staffing	Timeline	Partners
Hitting the Ground Running: Leveraging Work-Based Learning to Improve Educational Outcomes and Meet Workforce Demands	Access & success; workforce & society	★★★ ●● ■■	Western	\$1 million	1.75 FTE	3 years	TBD
A Second Chance at Success: Reducing the Fiscal and Social Impact of Recidivism Through Inmate Education and Reentry Programs	Access & success; workforce & society	★★ ●● ■■	Western	\$2.5 million	2 FTE	3 years	TBD
Safer Spaces: Aligning Policy and Practice to Reduce Sexual Violence on College Campuses in the West (Phase One)	Access & success; accountability	★★ ●● ■■	Western	\$250,000	.75 FTE	2 years	Washington State Council of Presidents and Washington and State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
Safer Spaces: Aligning Policy and Practice to Reduce Sexual Violence on College Campuses in the West (Phase Two)	Access & success; accountability	★★ ● ■■	Western	\$500,000	1.5 FTE	2 years	Two to Three Additional States
Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) and WICHE Research Initiative (Fueling the Race 2.0)	Access & success; accountability	★★ ● ■■	National	\$76,000	.10 FTE	3 years	Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL)
Streamlining Implementation of Outcomes-Based Funding Models	Accountability	★★ ●● ■■	Western	\$2.25 million	2 FTE	3 years	American Council on Education, NCHEMS, SHEEO, National Association of System Heads

Project Title	Focus	Priority	Geo Scope	Funding	Staffing	Timeline	Partners
Serving Student Soldiers of the West	Access & success; workforce & society	★★ ● ■ ■	Western	\$1 million	1.35 FTE	3 years	Mental Health Program, U.S. Dept. of Defense, Service-members Opportunity Colleges, American Council on Education
The Implementation of the Common Core State Standards and Assessments: Finding Solutions to Cross-State Challenges (Expansion)	Access & success	★ ● ■ ■ ■	Western and additional bordering states	\$1.75 million	1.35 FTE	3 years	SBAC, PARCC, MHEC*

* Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC); Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC); Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC).

Note: The shaded initiatives are of lower priority for staff in the context of their current workload than the other four initiatives.

Hitting the Ground Running: Leveraging Work-Based Learning to Improve Educational Outcomes and Meet Workforce Demands. The goal of this work is to help states (and perhaps metropolitan areas) facilitate the development of partnerships among institutions and businesses to ensure effective linkages between the workplace and the classroom through co-op/internship programs.

A Second Chance at Success: Reducing the Fiscal and Social Impact of Recidivism Through Inmate Education and Reentry Programs. The overall goal of this project is to reduce the fiscal and social impact of recidivism on states by helping former inmates, upon release from the correctional system, to be successful individually and be productive, contributing members of society through effective, comprehensive prison education and reentry programs.

Safer Spaces: Aligning Policy and Practice to Reduce Sexual Violence on College Campuses in the West (Phase One). WICHE will conduct research examining how contemporary policy approaches to sexual-violence prevention at postsecondary institutions are being implemented, with the goal of identifying those that research suggests have the greatest potential to reduce the prevalence of sexual violence. The initial stage of the research will be structured as a case study of the state of Washington’s implementation of recent state and institutional policies designed to reduce sexual violence at postsecondary institutions, with the goal of identifying facilitators of and barriers to implementation as described in the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Policy Evaluation Framework.

Safer Spaces: Aligning Policy and Practice to Reduce Sexual Violence on College Campuses in the West (Phase Two). Informed by the findings from stage one, WICHE will launch a competitive RFP process to select two additional states as sites to scale up the successful strategies and practices that were identified in Washington.

Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) and WICHE Research Initiative (Fueling the Race 2.0). Five years ago, the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) conducted the first national, multi-institutional study examining the academic outcomes of adult students who take advantage of prior learning assessment (PLA). In *Fueling the Race to Postsecondary Success: A 48-Institution Study of Prior Learning Assessment and Adult Student Outcomes*, CAEL found that adult students with PLA credit were two-and-a-half times more likely to complete their degrees than adult students without PLA credit. Much has changed in higher education since then, making another comprehensive study examining the impacts of PLA timely. Thus, CAEL seeks to engage WICHE as a partner on a proposal for a multi-part PLA research project addressing four main areas: impact on student outcomes, return on investment, academic integrity of PLA, and access to PLA nationally. Spanning three years, this effort would consist of three parts: the main institutional study of PLA and academic student outcomes; the return on investment for institutions, states, and systems; and the predictive validity of PLA.

Streamlining Implementation of Outcomes-Based Funding Models is a project to assist states and post-secondary institutions in adopting outcomes-based funding policies in ways that best ensure policy goals are achieved.

Serving Student Soldiers of the West: Policy and Practice Solutions is a project whose goal is to increase access to and success in higher education for military students and their families in the Western region.

Implementation of the Common Core State Standards and Assessments: Finding Solutions to Cross-State Challenges (Expansion). The overall goal of this expanded project is to bring together key state leaders involved in the implementation of the Common Core State Standards and assessments to discuss challenges associated with student movement across state lines, and identify practical solutions.

POTENTIAL FUTURE PROJECTS

Work that staff is considering pursuing (and bringing to the commission for review or approval). In addition, at the end of this section, we list projects that staff previously considered pursuing but that staff now proposes to remove from the workplan.

Ideas Proposed from the Survey of Commissioners, including Impact of Western Demographic Changes on Student Services and Curriculum, Promising Practices in Innovation to Replicate in States, Federal Engagement, Governance and Leadership.

The Impact of Dual and Concurrent Enrollment on Student Success in Postsecondary Education is a project that would assess the impact of enrolling students in (and their successfully completing) dual and concurrent enrollment courses while still in high school on their success in postsecondary education.

Changing Direction 2.0. A project building off WICHE's previous national project of the same name but addressing the new post-recession fiscal climate, which would promote the adoption of contemporary higher education finance policies that link appropriations, tuition setting, and financial aid policies.

Informing Career and Technical Education and Economic Development Programs to Meet State Workforce Needs. A project to explore how career and technical education and economic development programs can be best organized and informed with contemporary workforce data, in order to meet state workforce needs.

Assessing the Landscape of State Policy on Student-Learning Outcomes: A project that would assist states in understanding the various efforts underway to better capture student-learning outcomes, especially with respect to the Degree Qualifications Profile and its applicability to statewide and institutional curriculum design and assessment.

Exploring Strategies for Improving the Delivery of Remedial and Developmental Education Policies and Practices. A project that would build on current emerging practices in the field to help states more effectively and efficiently target remedial education to students, particularly adult learners.

Addressing Workforce Needs with the Emerging Majority-Minority. A project that would build on previous work that strengthened the connections between higher education institutions and workforce-training programs in an effort to promote a more explicit focus on how state workforce needs can be met through better service to racial/ethnic minorities and other underrepresented populations.

Previously considered projects that we propose to remove from the workplan. None at this time.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Work that staff finished in FY 2016.

Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE) Contract. WICHE was hired to assist the department with state-level strategic planning and execution of work related to its Strategic Priority Initiative #1 (to close the attainment gap at least by half by 2025).

Mental Health

The WICHE Mental Health Program seeks to enhance the public systems of care and the workforce that serves persons with mental health issues and their families. The program approaches this mission through partnerships with state mental health authorities, federal agencies, advocacy and consumer groups, and higher education institutions. Activities focus on direct technical assistance to state and local agencies, policy analysis and research, support of state mental health agency data analysis, and liaison activities with higher education to enhance workforce development.

EXISTING ACTIVITIES PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

Continuing (or new) work supported by grants or contracts. All work in this category is considered high-priority.

Project	Focus	Geo Scope	Funding	Staffing	Timeline	Partners
Alaska Psychiatric Institute Technical Assistance	Workforce & society	Western	\$75,000	.15 FTE	9/15-8/16	Alaska
Alaska Psychology Internship Consortium - Interns	Workforce & society	Western	\$200,000	.10 FTE	7/15-6/17	Alaska
Alaska Internship Consortium - Technical Assistance	Workforce & society	Western	\$39,962	.05 FTE	7/15-7/17	Alaska Trust
Arizona – Evidence-Based Practices	Workforce & society	Western	\$1,307,175	3.2 FTE	6/14-6/17	Arizona
Colorado Rural Veterans Suicide Prevention	Workforce & society	Western	\$451,305	1.2 FTE	2/15-2/17	Veterans Administration Office of Rural Health
Hawai'i Internship Program	Workforce & society	Western	\$1,659,988	.30 FTE	7/13-6/17	Hawai'i
Nevada Psychology Internship Program	Workforce & society	Western	\$500,689	.80 FTE	7/14-8/17	Nevada
Oregon Psychology Internship Program	Workforce & society	Western	\$187,558	.60 FTE	4/14-9/16	Oregon & APA
Texas – UTEP Internship Program	Workforce & society	Western	\$66,576	.15 FTE	9/12-8/17	U of Texas, El Paso

Alaska Psychiatric Institute Technical Assistance. WICHE is providing technical assistance and consultation focusing on strategic planning, staffing, and the provision of effective and efficient services.

Alaska Psychology Internship Consortium. WICHE supports the ongoing operations of the Alaska Psychology Internship Consortium.

Alaska Psychology Internship Technical Assistance. WICHE contracted with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority to provide ongoing technical assistance to the Alaska Psychology Internship Consortium.

Arizona – Evidence-Based Practices. WICHE partners with the Arizona Department of Health Services to assist with recruiting and staffing to support the implementation of four evidence-based practices in the Maricopa County public behavioral health system.

Colorado Rural Veterans Suicide Prevention (RVSP). WICHE is collaborating with the Denver-based federal Veterans Administration VISN 19 Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center to develop and pilot-test

a veterans suicide prevention program for rural communities. The current funding is for year two of the three-year initiative.

Hawai'i Internship Program. Three Hawai'i state agencies - the Department of Education, Department of Health, and Department of Public Safety - provide funding to support WICHE's ongoing development and operations of the Hawai'i Psychology Internship Consortium.

Nevada Psychology Internship Program. WICHE assists the state of Nevada in developing and accrediting a psychology internship training program within its state-run community behavioral health clinics.

Oregon Psychology Internship Program. WICHE assists the state of Oregon in developing and accrediting a psychology internship training program within its state hospital.

University of Texas at El Paso Intern Program. WICHE provides ongoing consultation and technical assistance to the El Paso Psychology Internship Consortium, which is funded through a grant from the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health.

NEW DIRECTIONS

Commissioner-approved projects for which staff is actively seeking funding, prioritized as follows:

- ★ = Urgency (mission critical) ★ = low, ★★ = medium, ★★★ = high
- = Opportunity (funding) ● = low, ●● = medium, ●●● = high
- = Competence (staff/consultants) ■ = low, ■■ = medium, ■■■ = high

Project Title	Focus	Priority	Geo Scope	Funding	Staffing	Timeline	Partners

POTENTIAL FUTURE PROJECTS

Work that staff is considering pursuing (and bringing to the commission for review or approval). Also listed are projects that staff previously considered pursuing but now proposes to remove from the workplan.

Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC). WICHE is working on a proposal for APPIC to plan, develop, and deliver a series of webinars and associated learning communities to promote APPIC members seeking American Psychological Association accreditation.

CNMI Child and Family System of Care Consultation and Training. WICHE may receive a contract to assist CNMI in the implementation of a systems of care grant from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Colorado Office of State Planning and Budgeting. WICHE and the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors Research Institute are competing for an RFP to conduct a study of behavioral health funding in Colorado.

Idaho Psychology Internship Development. WICHE is working with Idaho to create and fund a psychology internship development program in the state.

Nevada has expressed an interest in having WICHE examine the delivery of behavioral health services by state staff and private provider staff, including an assessment of services best provided by state staff.

Oregon Psychology Internship Program. WICHE will continue to provide support to the Oregon State Hospital for its psychology internship training program.

Rural Behavioral Health Research Center. WICHE has completed a federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant application for a four-year rural behavioral health research center. The center would conduct research studies, in four project areas, about behavioral health in rural areas of the country.

Wyoming Behavioral Health Division. WICHE is anticipating a contract to provide technical assistance to the state hospital and developmental disabilities resource center facilities.

Previously considered projects that we propose to remove from the workplan:

The MHP submitted a proposal for a three-year HRSA Outreach Grant to support continued work with the Colorado Psychology Internship Consortium. WICHE did not receive the grant award.

In cooperation with the School of Health at the University of Alaska-Anchorage, the MHP is working with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority to conceptualize and create a center for policy analytics. No decision has been made by Alaska to proceed with this joint venture.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Work that staff finished in FY 2016.

Alaska Pacific University (APU) Doctoral Program. WICHE contracted with APU to provide consultation and technical assistance to support the program's process of seeking accreditation by the American Psychological Association.

Alaska Mat-Su Health Foundation Environmental Scan. WICHE assisted the Mat-Su Health Foundation in completing a scan of behavioral health resources and gaps in the Mat-Su Borough and a funding analysis, in addition to developing recommendations to strengthen the system.

Alaska OISSP Child and Adolescent CSR. WICHE developed a new survey to assess client outcomes and quality of life for children and adolescents in publicly funded behavioral health services in Alaska, and conducted a pilot test of the new measures to establish validity and reliability.

Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC). WICHE completed a two-year collaboration with APPIC to conduct a nationwide evaluation of doctoral psychology internship programs that are currently not accredited by the American Psychological Association, to determine the barriers to accreditation and develop a tool to assess accreditation readiness.

Colorado Mental Health First Aid Initiative Evaluation. WICHE evaluated the outcomes and processes for the Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council's statewide dissemination of Mental Health First Aid trainings.

Colorado Psychology Internship Program. WICHE assisted with the development of a rural psychology internship consortium. However, resources were not available to fully implement the internship program.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). WICHE conducted an assessment of behavioral health needs for CNMI youth and families and provided Mental Health First Aid training.

Idaho - Behavioral Health Needs of Probationers and Parolees. WICHE completed an analysis of gaps in mental health and substance use disorder treatment services for Idaho residents on probation and parole.

South Dakota Drug Court Study. WICHE, in partnership with JBS International, completed an evaluation of the South Dakota drug court system.

Texas Harris County Internship Project. WICHE completed consultation and technical assistance to the psychology internship program, which is funded through a grant from the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health.

Texas Bexar County Internship Project. WICHE completed consultation and technical assistance to the Bexar County Juvenile Probation Department to support the accreditation process for its psychology internship program.

WCET

The WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies (WCET) was established in 1989 to promote collaboration and information sharing about educational technologies in higher education. WCET’s mission is to accelerate the adoption of effective practices and policies, advancing excellence in technology-enhanced teaching and learning in higher education. Today, WCET supports over 340 colleges, universities, state higher education agencies, non-profits and for-profit companies across the U.S. and Canada, with over 2,900 active WCET users. WCET’s strategic action plan focuses on practice, policy, and advocacy, and fulfills these core functions by leveraging the expertise within the WCET community, supporting action agendas based on member priorities, facilitating information dissemination and professional networking, and delivering responsive excellence to its higher education members. WCET is the leader in the practice and policy of technology-enhanced learning in higher education.

EXISTING ACTIVITIES ONGOING

Continuing work supported by the general fund or by fees. All work in this category is considered high-priority.

Project	Focus	Geo Scope	Staffing	Partners
WCET National Membership Cooperative	Technology & innovation; access & success	North America	8 FTE	350 member institutions, organizations, and companies
WCET Leadership Summit	Technology & innovation; access & success	North America	WCET staff	Corporate sponsors
WCET Webcast Series	Technology & innovation; access & success	North America	WCET staff	
e-Learning Policy & Advocacy	Technology & innovation; access & success	North America	WCET staff	Members, UPCEA, OLC, other organizations
WCET Research	Technology & innovation	North America	WCET staff	Members, Learning House, other organizations

EXISTING ACTIVITIES PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

Continuing (or new) work supported by grants or contracts. All work in this category is considered high-priority.

Project	Focus	Geo Scope	Funding	Staffing	Timeline	Partners
Adaptive Learning (targeted niche for CY 2016)	Technology & innovation; access & success	North America	Existing membership dues	WCET staff	7/16-6/17	Members, corporations, other organizations

Project	Focus	Geo Scope	Funding	Staffing	Timeline	Partners
Evolving Higher Education Policy Issues	Technology & innovation; access & success	North America	Existing membership dues	WCET staff	7/16-6/17	Members, other WICHE units
Deployment of Steering Committee Priorities to Advance WCET Focus Areas	Technology & innovation; access & success	North America	Existing membership dues	WCET staff	7/16-6/17	WCET Steering Committee, WCET members
State Authorization Network (SAN) - Year 6	Access & success	National	SAN member fees	1.45 FTE	7/16-6/17	NCHEMS & 75 member systems or organizations representing more than 700 institutions

Focus areas. WCET’s focus areas for 2016-17 include emerging technologies, faculty success, organizational success, policy and regulation, and student success. WCET works with its extensive and talented membership to produce a variety of deliverables related to each focus area, including guest blogs, interactive webinars, digital content, summits, member discussions, research, and its premier annual meeting.

Emerging technologies. Specific topics to be addressed include the Internet of Things (IoT), virtual reality, and artificial intelligence.

Faculty success. WCET staff and steering committee have identified the following faculty-related topics for the coming year: 21st Century teaching competencies, assessment in the context of competency-based learning and adaptive learning, and developing communities of practice.

Organizational success. WCET is well known for its leadership in the area of managing online learning. As technology extends beyond distance education and online units, WCET is updating this focus area to more broadly address organizational success. This is accomplished through WCET’s live and virtual events as well as interactive discussions among 3,000 subscribers. In FY 2016, WCET completed its survey on recruiting, orienting, and supporting online adjunct faculty and a survey on the price and cost of distance education.

Policy and regulation. WCET keeps its members informed of federal developments that may have an impact on higher education and its use of instructional technologies to enhance learning and extend access. WCET is collaborating with the WICHE Policy and Analysis staff to offer an information session for state legislators on costs and applications of technology in postsecondary education.

Student success. Although the term of WCET’s Adaptive Learning Fellow expires on July 31, 2016, WCET will continue to serve as a knowledge center on adaptive learning. Additional topics that are important to WCET’s membership include open educational resources (OER) and etexts, developing a culture of accessibility and universal design for learning (UDL), academic integrity, and connecting credentials.

WCET’s State Authorization Network (SAN) is a membership service for those seeking to comply with state authorization regulations related to the provision of online and distance courses and programs. WCET provides training on state regulations, access to experts, strategies on meeting state requirements, and support to a community of practitioners sharing effective practices and latest developments.

NEW DIRECTIONS

Commissioner-approved projects for which staff is actively seeking funding, prioritized as follows:

- ★ = Urgency (mission critical) ★ = low, ★★ = medium, ★★★ = high
- = Opportunity (funding) ● = low, ●● = medium, ●●● = high
- = Competence (staff/consultants) ■ = low, ■■ = medium, ■■■ = high

Project Title	Focus	Priority	Geo Scope	Funding	Staffing	Timeline	Partners

POTENTIAL FUTURE PROJECTS

Work that staff is considering pursuing (and bringing to the commission for review or approval). In addition, at the end of this section, we list projects that staff previously considered pursuing but that staff now proposes to remove from the workplan.

Licensure programs that cross state lines. SARA addresses degree programs that cross state lines. SARA does not apply to additional authorizations required of postsecondary programs that lead to licensure, such as teacher and nursing licensure. WCET is exploring opportunities for partners and funders to better inform students and to rationalize such requirements within a profession across state lines.

Previously considered projects that we propose to remove from the workplan:

Contingent faculty. In the May 2014 workplan, WCET reported a possible joint project with the Rand Corporation. Funding was not secured. However, in 2015 WCET partnered with The Learning House to conduct a survey and interviews on the recruitment and engagement of adjunct faculty in online programs.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Work that staff finished in FY 2016.

WCET Leadership Summit. “21st Century Credentials: Learners + Institutions + Workforce,” June 8-9, 2016.

SAN Workshops and Conferences. Beginner Workshop, held March 8-9, Louisville, KY; Collaborative Conference with Regulators, April 10-13, Austin, TX; Advanced Topics Workshop, June 14-15, Boulder, CO.

Assistance to the Louisiana Board of Regents. OER and eTexts in Postsecondary, April 5, Baton Rouge, LA.

WCET and NUTN Symposium on Accreditation and Distance Education. April 15, Dallas, TX.

Recruiting, Orienting, & Supporting Online Adjunct Faculty. A collaborative research project with The Learning House; findings published November 2015.

WCET Distance Education Enrollment Report 2016. Based on data accumulated by the U.S. Department of Education’s Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) surveys from fall 2014, this report highlights differences by sector, graduate vs. undergraduate study, student location, and the number of institutions educating students at a distance.

Price vs. Cost of Distance Education. In winter 2016, WCET issued a national survey to find answers to these questions: Do you charge students a price that is more or less for distance learning courses? Why? Does it cost the institutions more or less to create those courses? Why?

