



# WASHINGTON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL

## Academic Credit for Prior Learning

### Workgroup Meeting

#### MEETING NOTES

April 10, 2017

10:00am – 2:00pm

Highline Community College

#### Attendees:

Iulia Zavador (Bellevue), Jennifer Johnston (Highline), Jamie Krause (Pierce), Dani Gray (SFCC), Lisa Dominguez (YVC); Elizabeth Burke (Antioch U), Kathleen Yackey (City U); David Shulman (Seattle Film Institute); Keith Klauss (EWU), John Neace (EWU), Waylon Safranski (WSU); Cody Eccles (COP), Ruben Flores (SBCTC), Troy Goracke (SBCTC), Elizabeth Laukea (State Library), Deb O'Neill (WSAC), and Noreen Light (WSAC).

**Introductions.** New member David Shulman, representing private career colleges. Ruben Flores standing in for Joyce Hammer. Janice DeCosmo intended to join us for a portion of the meeting via online conferencing, but technical issues prevented use of the internet for the first hour of the meeting.

**Prior learning touches many different areas and sectors**, including high school dual credit programs and transfer. This ACPL workgroup has specific legislative charges to address. Discussed need for each ACPL workgroup member to **communicate with other groups** (JTC, ICRC, WEC, and so forth) they attend and communicate with colleagues in their institutions to ensure that work in ACPL is aligned across systems, without gaps between policy and practice.

Discussed **legislative charge** ([RCW 28B.77.230](#)) to the workgroup, and progress toward goals ([2016 progress report](#).) Discussed timeline for progress report and need to have data to WSAC research staff several months prior to legislative report deadline, in order to analyze data, draft report and circulate to sector partners, workgroup members and OFM for feedback – revise, revise, revise and finalize.

**ACTION:** Need full participation in **data collection** – by deadline - to establish statewide baseline. Private BIs and public BIs all contributed this year. Noreen will work with sector reps – Cody, Joyce, Vi and David – to increase participation.

Several questions arose that are beyond the scope of this workgroup, but may be potential recommendations for further research, to be included in a progress report. Research could include benefits of ACPL to Washington students. Questions: Does ACPL

increase completion rates? Shorten time to completion? Decrease cost? Increase transfer from CTC to BI?

Agreed that **ACPL workgroup still has work to do**. Meeting twice yearly, plus the fall workshop, seems to meet the needs of the group. Retain practice of sector co-chairs (CTC and BI), with WSAC staff support. Currently, CTC co-chair position is vacant, and BI co-chair position will be vacated soon.

**ACTION:** Co-chair volunteers needed.

Discussed **required members** of the workgroup and noted that we are missing representation from business and labor.

**ACTION:** Noreen will reach out to potential reps for business and labor sectors. All – send suggestions to Noreen.

Also discussed potential shift in focus for workgroup, when ACPL awards reach a plateau. Perhaps move toward advocacy and training to ensure consistent student access to ACPL. Supporting faculty and staff understanding of policies and practices.

Discussed potential need for high level document **(policy or guidance) summarizing key pieces of ACPL policy and practice** in Washington as a step between legislation and sample institution policies (which are included in guidance in ACPL handbook.) Draft was distributed and feedback was provided on rewording of the purpose section to focus on accessibility, and to specify industry certifications in crosswalk definition. Much discussion on the number of credits section – specify NWCCU in lieu of more generic wording about accrediting bodies, limits on excess military credits, and specify 25% cap on prior experiential learning.

**ACTION:** Group agreed that this document would be helpful – not sure if it should be policy or guidance. Noreen will revise to include suggestions and send out to the workgroup for further review. All – share revised version with your colleagues for input.

Discussion of Goal 7, development of **outcome measures**. Can compare from year to year those institutions which have contributed, but still need statewide baseline to state whether or not Goals 1&2 are being met (statewide). Possibly compare ACPL data to enrollment.

**ACTION:** WSAC staff will review past data collection and see if there are groups for which change over time can be reported.

Presentation on **portfolio development** to document prior experiential learning. HS 21+ program, Troy Goracke (SBCTC). College-level outcomes, Elizabeth Burke (Antioch University).

**Resources for institutions and staff** include the recently revised ACPL handbook, available on the [ACPL web page](#). This is the third version of the handbook, which was reviewed and revised at the 2016 fall workshop and via two rounds of email input.

In phone calls and via email with Randy Spaulding (WSAC) and Noreen, Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (**NWCCU**) president Dr. Sandra Elman, Senior Vice-President Dr. Pam Goad and Vice-President Valerie Martinez contributed to the handbook by **affirming the definition of prior experiential learning as the only assessment category included in the 25% cap**. Pam and Valerie also gave specific feedback on the handbook wording and **contributed the chart showing how each accreditation standard relates to the assessment categories**.

Consensus was that the **annual workshop** continues to be well-attended and should be continued. Yakima Valley College is offering a free workshop on the use of ACE Military Guides led by American Council on Education. Contact [Lisa Dominguez](#) to register.

### Key dates

Fall workgroup meeting: **tentatively September 7**, 10-2, at Highline College, Mt. Skokomish room. (Noreen is waiting for confirmation from Highline.)

Annual fall workshop: **possible dates October 20 or 27**, at Yakima Valley College. (Voice your preference for a date by using this [Doodle scheduling tool](#).)

**Reminder:** Please ensure that information from this meeting is shared with other faculty, administrators, and system groups.