

**Advancing Montana's Two-Year College Initiative**  
**PROGRESS REPORT FOR MONTANA BOARD OF REGENTS – NOVEMBER 2009**

**Strategy 1: Bring full two-year mission to all two-year campuses.**

<b>TACTIC</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>	<b>NEXT STEPS</b>
a. Shift developmental programming to two-year providers.	Mostly accomplished; still some developmental programming at four-year level; also need to examine policy and pricing. Regents endorsed moving forward on tactic 9/24/09.	Workgroup to be formed after November BOR meeting; appoint Implementation Team lead at that time. Convene workgroup in December 2009.
b. Bring ABE/GED completion programming to all two-year campuses.	Three COTs, two 4-year providers, and ___ tribal colleges currently without ABE programming. OPI has agreed to take lead on this workgroup. Moving forward at once on tactic endorsed by Regents 9/24/09.	Form workgroup; frame workgroup charge; appoint Implementation Team lead; convene workgroup for initial meeting by December 2009. Some overlap between this tactic and 1d to be addressed.
c. Bring transfer programming to all two-year campuses.	One COT without transfer mission; two COTs with limited transfer mission; COT transfer rates indicate need for promotion, incentives. Regents endorsed moving forward on tactic 9/24/09.	Form workgroup; appoint Implementation Team lead in November. Convene workgroup in December to identify issues with bringing the transfer mission to the embedded COTs.
d. Create adult-friendly programs, services	"PEP Talk" adult advising tool is currently being rolled out in partnership with Dept of Labor and OPI. Lumina funding crucial for consultants, pilot approach. On 9/24/09, Regents endorsed waiting for Implementation Grant results before proceeding.	Other than "PEP Talk" project, waiting for Implementation Grant results. RFP being prepared to identify lead campus for pilot project. Lead campus will be core of workgroup; other constituents also need to be identified in November.
e. Develop best practices/ regional feedback tool for workforce dev/K-12 links	Pat Wise of Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity will co-chair workforce piece. Moving forward on tactic endorsed by Regents 9/24/09. Discussed with Two-Year Leadership Committee on Oct. 19; FVCC model seems like a template to work from.	Form workgroup; appoint Implementation Team co-chair. Frame workgroup charge; convene workgroup for initial meeting by December 2009. Some overlap between this tactic and Strategy 2a.

**Strategy 2: Coordinate approaches to curriculum, high school/college transition, transfer.**

<b>TACTIC</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>	<b>NEXT STEPS</b>
a. Create a statewide approach and protocols for high school/GED-to-college transitions	Moving forward on tactic endorsed by Regents 9/24/09. Discussed with OPI Cabinet, Two-Year Leadership Committee, Leadership Council in October. Much support for MCIS tool outlining comprehensive approach. Protocols for "Tech Prep" and specific course articulations underway. Much prep work needed at post-secondary level (e.g., 2b, 2c) before workgroup can address larger issues. Two-Year Leadership suggesting names for this workgroup.	Consult two-year CAOs in November on prep work needed on AP, Tech Prep, alignment of related instruction/gen ed, regents core. Complete prep work by January 2010. Convene oversight workgroup (Joyce Silverthorne, Mary Moe and 12 – 16 K12, higher ed members) in January to guide prep work, begin protocol discussions.

<p>b. Align related instruction requirements in workforce programs leading to same job.</p>	<p>Moving forward endorsed by Regents 9/24/09. Met with MACIE leadership in August; they like idea of some outcomes/coursework building awareness of American Indian issues in each career. Discussed w/Leadership Council 10/20; more support for outcomes-based approach to alignment; recommend CAO consultation, inclusion of business/industry.</p>	<p>Consult with two-year CAOs and MHA, MEDA for approach in November (see 2a). Appoint Implementation Group co-chair(s) in late November. Start alignment process with healthcare cluster in January, including two-year faculty and healthcare advisory board. Keep 2a workgroup, Tech Prep folks in the loop.</p>
<p>c. Create a certificate program for the "regents transfer core"</p>	<p>Moving forward on tactic endorsed by Regents 9/24/09. MACIE leadership supports diversity requirement focusing on Montana's American Indians. MSU campuses proposing "regents core" as centerpiece of virtual community college. Discussed w/Leadership Council 10/20; CAOs want to be involved. General Education Faculty Council also need to be involved.</p>	<p>Clarify goals, criteria for "regents core" with BOR in November. Guided by BOR feedback, create workgroup(s) charge; appoint workgroup(s) members; collect data; begin work in December. Scholarship incentives also part of charge. Keep 1c, 2a, and 3b workgroups in loop.</p>

**Strategy 3: Improve technology infrastructure to expand access, increase efficiency.**

<b>TACTIC</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>	<b>NEXT STEPS</b>
<p>a. Bring all MUS-affiliated colleges onto the same information enterprise system.</p>	<p>Moving forward on tactic as endorsed by Regents 9/24/09. Work has begun to bring Dawson CC onto Banner, using HB 645 \$. Additional funds would be save by bringing Miles CC onto Banner at same time; Sunguard visited Miles CC to identify issues, concerns. OCHE met with Miles CC staff, leadership and Board 10/21. No decision yet from Miles.</p>	<p>Informal workgroup has formed; no need for more formal one. Awaiting Miles CC decision to begin process of bringing Dawson CC and possibly Miles CC onto Banner. Decision expected by 11/24/09.</p>
<p>b. Create a virtual community college.</p>	<p>Moving forward on tactic endorsed by Regents 9/24/09. MSU campuses propose integrating their systems sufficiently to offer the "regents core" in a virtual, integrated environment by 9/2010. Progress somewhat dependent on progress toward 2c, funding remaining from 3a.</p>	<p>Informal workgroup has formed. Clarify charge, identify workgroup and co-chair(s) in November. Convene workgroup in December to identify priorities, establish timeline. Keep 1c, 1d, 2a, 2c workgroups in loop.</p>

**Strategy 4: Implement outcomes-based funding.**

<b>TACTIC</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>	<b>NEXT STEPS</b>
<p>a. Implement outcomes-based funding.</p>	<p>NCHEMS' Dennis Jones presented on this subject at September BOR meeting; Regents endorsed moving forward. Discussed with Leadership Council 10/20, who emphasized need to identify/ distinguish appropriate outcomes for two-year colleges. Regents' Workgroup apprised of progress 10/22.</p>	<p>Dennis Jones will return to BOR in November. Need two-year workgroup to function as subset of Deputy Commissioner Robinson's workgroup to conduct outcomes research, including best practices already in place in Montana's two-year colleges.</p>