



## DISCUSSION OUTLINE for NEXT STEPS – SEPTEMBER 2010

**MONTANA GOAL:** Through collaboration, coordination and promotion of Montana’s two-year colleges, increase enrollments, transfers, and degree completions, and create efficiencies that make college more affordable for students and for taxpayers.

**Strategy #1:** Bring the full community college mission to all two-year colleges in the Montana University System. Next steps:

- a. “Roll out” rebranded COTs in July 2011.
- b. Establish productive partnerships with ABLE providers.
- c. Propose innovations in developmental education.

**Strategy #2:** Deploy Montana’s two-year colleges as “higher education hubs” responding to regional demands for high school-to-college transitions, workforce development and adult access. Next steps:

- a. Identify regions of service for the “higher education hubs.”
- b. Establish systemwide funding and tuition models for dual enrollment.
- c. Bring in NACEP consultant to assist in transition to standards-based concurrent enrollment.
- d. Engage partners in designing a statewide data report on two-year colleges’ workforce responsiveness.
- e. Pilot ALFI assessment on 2-3 two-year college campuses.
- f. Identify promising models for RFP on adult-friendly pilot program.

**Strategy #3:** Coordinate curriculum and technology infrastructures to expand access, create efficiencies, and support resource-sharing. Next steps:

- a. Finalize Choices That Count Pathway Certificate and enlist campus pilots.
- b. Implement guidelines for aligning related instruction and incorporate alignments in the Perkins “programs of study” blitz.
- c. Assist in final stages of Dawson and Miles Community Colleges’ conversion to Banner.
- d. Implement system-wide data standards for “system critical” data elements.
- e. Refine interface of two-year college campuses with Montana Digital Academy for dual enrollment.
- f. Develop framework for “virtual community college.”

**Strategy #4:** Use state funds for higher education to promote and reward a focus on student success, rather than student enrollment only. Next steps:

- a. Refine performance-based funding model.
- b. Phase in performance-based funding in FY 2012.