

Perkins Technical Assistance & Best Practice Sharing WebEx Conference Notes

Date: September 16, 2009

Time: Noon to 1

Attendance: BCC, FPCC, FVCC, MCC, MSUB, MSUGF, SKC, UMM

The September call Agenda items:

- Performance Based Funding: Brad Eldredge joined the call for a brief announcement. He thanked everyone for their questions and feedback on PBF. He stated the feedback was positive after the questions were addressed. The next step will be to put out an RFP for a contractor to help us develop the process. Steve Klein from MPR who spoke with us during our TA meeting in Helena will be encouraged to apply, but it will be a competitive process. After a contractor is in place, we will bring in representatives from each school to participate in developing the formula and process.
- Jenny Howie will give an update on the Institute for Women in Trades, Technology & Science training she attended
 - Jenny gave an overview of this training. She stated that 4 people from MSUB attended including a faculty member from the automotive program. Their current plan is to train their non-trad committee and then develop an implementation plan.
 - We discussed using State Leadership - Nontraditional money to bring in the IWITTS folks for a train the trainer session for Perkins. There were no objections and it seemed as though most call participants felt this would be very helpful.
 - While there were a variety of opinions about the timing of the training, it was determined there could be 3 representatives from each school participating. Given the limited number of participants, the training will be more directed towards those who deal with nontraditional students at the college level who would be responsible for training advisors and faculty. Faculty members can be represented in the 3 participants.
 - While February is a great time for training based on schedules, it is difficult because of weather. Since the IWITTS trainers will be coming to Montana and this would be a face-to-face training, it would not be practical to reschedule should there be weather issues. April became the next best timeframe to consider for training.
 - After the call, I spoke with Brad to see if there were funds left for the 09-10 grant year. It is possible we may have \$14,000 for this training. I will contact IWITTS next week to see what our options are. If the cost will be significantly higher, we may have to put this off until next year, or after July 1st.
- 1P1 Technical Skill Assessment data –
 - Review the summary of gold standard reports emailed earlier this month

- Which assessments give results by student and what is needed to obtain them - release of information; field must be checked on the assessment; list submitted will be verified
- Opportunities for improvement in gathering data
- There were a number of issues call participants brought up
 1. Jenny brought up that MSUB wants to assure the information reported is accurate so that if students can be identified through this reporting, that it not cause a student harm or misrepresent them in any way. Incidental reporting by faculty would not likely be accurate. Student self reporting can be accurate if the student is responding to the question for the purposes of this type of reporting. Incidental self reporting, for example running into a student in the grocery store, should typically not be considered a valid and reliable method of reporting.
 2. Sharon made the point many programs have VOLUNTARY technical skill assessments and that many students choose not to take the assessment/certification. Further, many employers do not require the certification for employment, and many often pay for the certification if one is encouraged. Often if this happens, it happens long after graduation.
 3. Lynn Farris made the point that a number of students take & pass a state or national certification and are employed in the field but do not have a degree nor certification from the institution. From what I understand, these students would count as successfully completing a TSA. Kathy will validate this with OVAE. Kathy will also validate the 1P1 queries to assure the gold standard student lists distributed to schools include stopouts to include these students. Lynn would like a list of all completers.
 4. Lynn Farris identified that students in programs like Pharmacy Tech have the results of their certification readily accessible for those that pass. Students that fail are typically not known. Judy Hay felt we may want to include all students in the denominator for a more accurate statistic.
 5. OVAE is looking for improvement. Since this is the first year for reporting this statistic, the course of action for this indicator will be the following.
 1. Focus first on “low hanging fruit” – or programs where tracking the results of certifications, licensure or assessments is common place. Currently nursing, NOCTEI assessments, and a few other programs have established relationships to obtain student results. These are the programs we will focus on for the 08-09 federal report.
 2. Each school has a report on KNOX (shown below) of the 08 graduates for all programs identified as having a GOLD standard assessment. This reports DOES include stopouts. This should address those students who don’t complete but

pass an assessment. The list will be sorted by program. This information can be copied by program and emailed to faculty. Faculty will need to check one of the three fields pass assessment, fail assessment or unknown. The completed spreadsheet is due **October 17th**.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1	status	grad yr	student id	college	name	cip	degree	credits	program_title	pass assessment	fail assessment	unknown
2	GRAD	08	1111	xxxx		470603	AAS	70	Automotive Technology			
3	GRAD	08	2222	xxxx		470603	AAS	70	Automotive Technology			
4	GRAD	08	3333	xxxx		470603	AAS	70	Automotive Technology			
5	GRAD	08	4444	xxxx		470603	CERT	36	Automotive Technology			
6	GRAD	08	5555	xxxx		470603	CERT	36	Automotive Technology			
7	GRAD	08	6666	xxxx		470603	CERT	37	Automotive Technology			
8	GRAD	08	7777	xxxx		470604	AAS	70	Automotive Technology			
9	GRAD	08	8888	xxxx		470604	AAS	70	Automotive Technology			
10	GRAD	08	9999	xxxx		470604	AAS	70	Automotive Technology			
11	GRAD	08	11110	xxxx		470604	AAS	70	Automotive Technology			
12	GRAD	08	12221	xxxx		470604	AAS	70	Automotive Technology			
13	GRAD	08	13332	xxxx		470604	AAS	70	Automotive Technology			
14	GRAD	08	14443	xxxx		470604	AAS	70	Automotive Technology			
15	GRAD	08	15554	xxxx		470604	AAS	70	Automotive Technology			

3. For the 09-10 federal report we will look at programs where at least one program in the state refers students to a GOLD standard assessment . Schools/programs will share results and collaborate with like programs across the state to increase the opportunity for assessment organizations to share student results.
4. When progress has been made on step 3, the next step will be to identify the next group of programs where an assessment would add value to students, the college and or industry. Then develop the approach to be used for each program area.