



MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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Developmental Education Council

In August 2013, Commissioner Christian appointed a Developmental Education Council as recommended by the Developmental Education Reform Taskforce and approved by the Board of Regents at their May 2013 meeting.

The Council is charged with developing specific strategies, tactics and programs, to be presented to the Board of Regents at the May 2104 meeting, that will result in the full implementation of the Task Force recommendations. It is also envisioned that the Council may, during the course of its work, add recommendations for Board of Regents approval.

The Council membership includes:

Co-Chairs:

John E. Cech, Deputy Commissioner, Two-Year/Community College Education

Neil Moisey, Deputy Commissioner, Academic, Research, and Student Affairs

Council Membership:

Sharon O’Hare, Assistant Vice President, UM (Vice Chair)

Denise Keefer Runge, Chief Academic Officer, Helena College UM

Heidi Pasek, Chief Academic Officer, Great Falls College MSU

Ron Larsen, Associate Provost, MSU

Dennis Parman, Deputy Superintendent, OPI

Matt Redinger, Vice Provost, MSUB

Kristin Jones, Chief Academic Officer, FVCC

Developmental Education Council Workplan:

- Form a “Developmental Education Council” with participation from both two-year and university sectors:

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY ~ Campuses at Billings, Bozeman, Great Falls, and Havre

THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA ~ Campuses at Butte, Dillon, Helena, and Missoula

Dawson Community College (Glendive) ~ Flathead Valley Community College (Kalispell) ~ Miles Community College (Miles City)

- Commissioner-appointed Council members in August 2013.
- Council to be co-chaired by Deputy Commissioner Cech and Deputy Commissioner Moisey; Sharon O'Hare as Vice Chair.
- Create two separate discipline workgroups in Math and Writing/Reading consisting of faculty representatives from across the System, with the goal of forming recommendations to the Developmental Education Council for the scaling of successful pilot projects, creating a shared understanding of college readiness, and implementing innovative assessment and common placement models. Each committee will be charged with recommending a single, multiple-measures mechanism for placement into developmental and college-level mathematics and writing/reading courses.
- Form recommendations for models that work for Montana to create comprehensive student support and advising programs.
- Create an OPI/MUS communications group with the goal to work together to develop common goals and strategies related to communication.
- Develop recommendations for long-term tracking of students enrolled in developmental education courses and college-level mathematics and writing/reading courses. Provide recommendations on appropriate metrics and benchmarks to the Performance Funding Steering Committee.
- Initiate amending Board Policies based on recommendations from the Task Force by May 2014.