

Docket Item:

Legislative Workgroups and Reports

Summary:

Currently HECC staff are working to finalize work plans and outlines associated with the multiple bills that were passed during the 2015 legislative session. The following is a summary of bills with topics that are of direct interest to the SSIC:

Steer the Education Enterprise

HB 2525 Credit Transfer & Transfer Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities

Current status: Staff has begun researching current policy and practice on community college to university transfer they are also accessing national research on the problems of credit “loss” and excess credit accumulation by transfer students. Stakeholder engagement has begun for workgroup formation, through the Joint Transfer and Articulation committee and campus based institutional researchers who have studied this problem before. Report deadline: July 2016.

Next Steps for SSIC: Staff anticipates that a draft of the report will be brought to the SSIC in May 2015 for review and consideration as there is a final legislative

Lead Staff: Sean Pollack

HB 2681 Placement Testing & Policies at Community Colleges

Current status: HECC staff are working with staff from the Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Community Colleges Association to assembling a workgroup that will leverage the significant progress made in this area by the Developmental Education Redesign Workgroup (representing all seventeen community colleges and OCCA). New members will join this effort representing universities, secondary education, and students. Report deadline: Preliminary report February 2016. Final report September 2016.

Next Steps for SSIC: Staff anticipates bringing forward a draft of the preliminary report for SSIC consideration during the December meeting with a final review in January

Lead Staff: Lisa Reynolds

HB 3335 General Education Credential

Current status: Staff are researching approaches to the problem of university students “stopping out” after the equivalent of two years (90 credits). No deadline or work product specified. Staff will file a report with the appropriate committee(s) of the legislature.

Next Steps for SSIC: Staff will provide updates as appropriate regarding the progress of this work.



Lead Staff: Sean Pollack

SB 860 Career Advising and Mentorship Pilot Program

Current status: A Request for Proposals will be developed for pilot programs for a comprehensive advising, mentorship, and career-development pathway for students. Associated timelines charted for the academic year are under discussion. Universities will be selected for pilot programs based on: cost-effectiveness, existing infrastructure to fulfill program goals, ability to serve students from traditionally underserved populations. HECC will report on results to the 2017 regular session of the Legislature.

Next Steps for SSIC: Staff will provide updates as appropriate regarding the progress of this work.

Lead Staff: Donna Levelling

Broaden Pathways to our 40-40 Goals

HB 3375 Educator Equity Act

HECC will require Oregon's six public university teacher preparation programs to prepare written plans that detail the recruitment, selection, retention, and graduation of diverse educators.

The six institutions providing plans are: Eastern Oregon University, Oregon State University, Portland State University, Southern Oregon University, University of Oregon, and Western Oregon University.

Next Steps for SSIC: Staff anticipates bringing forward plans for SSIC review and potential revisions between March and May of 2016 with final Commission approval expected in June 2016.

Lead Staff: Erin Weeks-Earp

Make Pathways Accessible, Affordable & Supportive for Students

SB 81 Oregon Promise Grants

Current Status: The Oregon Promise work, led by the HECC's Office of Student Access and Completion, will be supported by the SB 418 workgroup that is staffed by the university coordination and community college education team, with emphasis on Oregon Promise students and preparation for successful transitions to college, university, or career.

Lead Staff: Bob Brew

HB 2973 Affordable Bachelor's Degree

Current status: University Coordination staff are meeting with University Budget Administrator Brian Fox to discuss baseline definitions of "affordability," and researching affordable degree pathways from other states. Report deadline: 2016 Legislative Session.



Next Steps for SSIC: Staff anticipates that a draft of the report will be presented to the SSIC in January 2016.

Lead Staff: Sean Pollack

HB 2871 Open Educational Resources

Current status: Staff are currently working to finalize the position descriptions associated with this bill. The first is for the OER specialist who will work to collaborate with the universities community colleges to foster the use of open educational resources. The second will be a position which will focus on developing the grant program. Public postsecondary institutions will designate courses whose course materials exclusively consist of open or free textbooks or other low-cost or no-cost course materials, beginning in Fall 2016. A progress report is due by December 1, 2015 to the legislature.

Next Steps for SSIC: Staff anticipate bring forward a draft report for Committee Review in October with final adoption in November.

Lead Staff: Donna Lewelling

Staff Recommendation:

This is an initial opportunity for feedback and input on the recommended timeline and process. The groups convened for the bills listed above will involve work that crosses educational sector boundaries.