

Construction Center of Excellence Steering Committee Meeting Minutes April 4, 2006 H-102

Present: Judy Amico, Beth Arman, Steve Baldwin, Beth Blanchard, Bob Book, Moe Broom, Dick Chamblin, Marvin Doster, Sean Eagan, Jim Elmore, Heather Fredericks, Rebecca Harrison, Melissa Helmenstine, Steve Ignac, Marvin Jenkins, Larry Leet, Leanne Liddicoat, Bill McCartan, Sandra Olson-Meyer, Kelcey Packineau, Cal Pygott, Denise Salo, Sam Samano, Ed Thomas, Arne Reyier, Rickie Robinson

Agenda:

Welcome/Introductions

Approval of January Minutes

- Minutes reviewed and accepted

Director's Report

- Recap of Conference; ConstructSeattle; Partner Promotion
- Upcoming CCE Assessment – Perimeters of Success
- Additional CCE work – K-12 Articulations; Construction Management; Safety Seminars; Construction Math Road Show; If I Had a Hammer (for Women)
- TMP Phase II Grant Opportunity – Support Needed

Good of the Order/Upcoming Events

- 2006 WABO Annual Education Institute – April 10-14
- Developing Green: Sustainability Entering the Mainstream April 10-11
- AIA Seattle What Makes It GREEN Conference 2006: Community Relationships/Crating avenues for a Sustainable Future – April 13 – 14
- Tulalip TERO Job Fair April 25
- Washington Women in Trades Fair – April 28
- The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and the Auburn School District are sponsoring a Career Day – May 3
- Sisters in the Building Trades Potluck Meeting – May 9
- Bates/RTC Boiler Operators Refresher Conference – June 8 and 9
- Construction Center of Excellence Assessment – June 9

Topics of Discussion:

Recap of Washington State Construction Workforce Conference

The conference report was forwarded to the steering committee, conference presenters, and attendees last month. It is now available at

<http://www.RTC.edu/CommunityResources/CCE/Conferences/conf2006.aspx>

Feedback:

We had considerable positive feedback in letters and emails after the event. The survey response rate was not as high from the attendees, as it was from the speakers. We will devise a strategy to improve survey returns for next year's event.

Format:

The majority of survey responses indicated we should do the same format next year (9 1.5 days, multi-peer audience). We will explore hosting the event during spring break, or at a time when parking issues can be reduced. We may look at having it off site but it is agreed by most that having it at RTC is good for the college. We were over capacity this year and we would hate to turn people away if there was not enough parking. Steve Ignac felt there may be a problem with other colleges attending the conference, if we have it during spring break because they would possibly be on break also.

Actions:

CCE Staff will offer potential dates to steering committee at June 15 meeting

CCE steering committee subgroup for the next conference will be formed at June 15 meeting

ConstructSeattle Expo

The CCE had a booth at the ConstructSeattle on March 21st and 22nd. Heather, Rebecca Harrison, Steve Baldwin and Beth Blanchard had put together a presentation, called "Washington's Construction Workforce Network," but unfortunately the conference promoters did not promote the session when we requested it to be gratis to expo attendees. RTC was the only education organization that had a booth at the expo. We were able to bring information on several colleges offering construction training, and some organizations, including:

Bates Technical College

Bellevue Community College – interior design program

Edmonds Community College

Green River Community College

Pierce College

Pierce County Construction Partnership

Renton Technical College

Seattle Central Community College – Wood Construction Center

Seattle Vocational Institute – Pre-Apprenticeship programs

Snohomish County Construction Careers Partnership

Spokane Community College – Construction Skill Panel

Safety Training Coalition – South Seattle Community College

The Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County

The 2006 recipients of the Excellence in Construction Education Awards:

- TAPIT Project – South Central Workforce Development Council
- ESD 101 – Spokane Service Team
- Central Washington University – ACES
- AGC Education Foundation
- Get Electrified

CITC apprenticeships

LADS

Northwest Laborers Training Trust

Ironworkers 86

Puget Sound Electrical JATC

Cement Masons

We ideally want marketing materials from all our construction training providers, so we can make referrals appropriately. Please send us copies of your materials.

We were able to refer a furniture designer looking for potential graduates to meet with the Seattle Central/Wood Construction Center, and we shared information on all the Construction Management programs in place or opening in Western Washington.

CCE Assessment

Nearly every Center of Excellence has been assessed at this time. Assessments began at the two- year anniversary date, starting in December 2005. Heather was on the assessment team for Shoreline Community College. This assessment is important for us, because either we will have a year to meet any citations, or lose our designation. We are optimistic we will be funded for another 4 years. The assessments are headed by Michelle Andreas.

We need steering committee members to participate in the assessment.

Please support the CCE by doing one or more of the following:

- √ Send us a letter supporting the CCE that we can give to the assessment team;
- √ Complete the online survey that will be distributed in May;
- √ Join us on the assessment day – either as part of a morning presentation; a campus tour, or the luncheon we will host.

Heather distributed a copy of the Nine Outcomes (expectations) of Success. This worksheet shows the areas on which we will be assessed.

Most assessments are structured with a power point presentation led by college staff and the Center’s director. Heather would like to see something distinctive from our assessment. She will contact specific committee members and other partners to participate in presentations during the assessment, and will make these invitations after April 19.

Transitional Math Project – Possible Grant for CCE

Staff to the Transitions Math Project (TMP) invited the CCE to apply for a modest, three year grant as part of the second phase of TMP’s initiative. This initiative aims to increase math competencies, and decrease math remediation from secondary schools, to post-secondary training. The TMP wants proposals to be tied to its College Readiness Standards. The CCE will submit a proposal to:

- Create lesson plans, a full instructional guide, and a student workbook based on ***Laying the Foundation: Construction math***
- Expand on a Train-the-Trainer format to engage industry and apprenticeship representatives as “math ambassadors” who can teach fun math lessons in middle and high schools as part of a **Construction Math Road Show**
- Expand the AGC’s Construction Math Institute, which is a weeklong opportunity for math teachers to learn about construction, in order to apply practices and information to their curriculum

These activities will help us promote the level of math competency a person must possess to be able to work successfully in most entry-level construction jobs. It will also tie academic achievement to career planning, construction career awareness, and college readiness.

Heather shared that Kathy Swan has agreed to help us in developing a couple lesson plans and a one-time Train the Trainer event for the steering committee, Speakers' Bureau, and other interested individuals who can volunteer in middle and high schools to teach construction math as part of our Construction Math Road Show. The Train the Trainer should be held by June 30th. Even if we do not get the grant we will try to expand these outreach projects.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT! We will send an executive summary of the proposal and a template letter to the steering committee in the next week. Please consider writing a letter for us.

Construction Math Institute

Leanne Liddicoat summarized the Construction Math Institute:

- It is held one week during the summer
- Teachers earn education credits
- There are tours through the Skill Centers
- Teachers sit through some math lessons.
- Teachers participate in on job site tours.

The Construction Math program has been in effect for two years and the AGC Education Foundation has been asked to take it statewide. Cal Pygott commented that he went through the first session and it was very helpful.

Steering Committee – Strategic Vision for 2006 – 2008: Preliminary Discussion

Heather would like the growing steering committee to be able to maximize the collective expertise and interests of its members. We need to set a mission statement for the committee, and a strategic vision for the next two years, which will help us prioritize work based on real-time industry needs.

Sandra Olson-Meyers suggested that we form a committee who would create a Mission Statement. The committee will include Sam Samano, Denise Salo, Marvin Doster, Leanne Liddicoat, and Jim Elmore. Dick Chamblin thought it might be a good idea to have someone from the business part of the college be involved in creating the mission statement.

Update: Heather sent a two draft statements to this group for review. A draft will be ready for full committee approval in June.

Steve Ignac suggested sub-committee groups should have 6 or less members in order to be effective. Jim Elmore suggested increased committee work be done via email, in order to save time. We will update and send a steering committee roster soon.

Sub committees do not have to hold their meetings at the RTC campus. They can be scheduled at convenient locations for the members.

At our next full steering committee meeting (scheduled for June 15, from 11am to 3pm) we will identify the sub groups within our committee and form a two-year strategic plan. This strategic plan

will also take into account our grant deliverables with the state, and the results from our June 9 assessment.

Steve thinks it would be a good idea to send letters to certain individuals to invite them to be a part of a sub group. We need more industry people involved and we need to bring in more safety experts. Sam suggested maybe each member call one employer and talk to them one on one.

Heather asked Michelle Andreas about possibly having the next steering committee meeting during the assessment. She thought it might be a good idea and will be talking to higher ups about it.

Kelcey asked if all the meetings will be held here at RTC, and Heather said that what she would like would be to have meetings throughout the state. It was agreed that we would probably need about a week after the assessment to put together the outcome of the assessment to share with the members of the committee. We will look at possibly June 15th or 21st as dates for our next meeting. Since it will probably be a longer meeting we will plan it around a working lunch and schedule it from 11:00 – 3:00. Heather will send out dates to everyone and see what consensus she gets back.

Leanne asked Heather how she will solicit people to participate in the assessment. Heather will invite people to be part of specific presentations after April 19. ***If any steering committee member wants to be part of presentation, or part of the assessment team reviewing the CCE, please call Heather ASAP at 425.235.2352, extension 5582.***

Good of the Order:

With the remaining meeting time, Heather asked each of the members to share updates or industry information.

Steve Baldwin – Snohomish County Workforce Development Council

- There will be a Tulalip TERO Job Fair on April 25th, 2006 at the Tulalip Tribal Center. The construction company that will be building the new hotel will be there and people from the trades. It is a good opportunity to meet people.

Dick Chamblin – Bates Technical College

- Bates will be holding a Final State Skills USA (formerly VICA) competition. Finalists will go to the National. Attendees will get to see future apprentices. It will be held Saturday, April 15th from 7:00 am – 2:30 pm. Results will be tabulated and awards given that evening.
- Bates is hosting the Washington State Boiler Operators Symposium 2006. There are 1500 certified operators in Tacoma and south area and 5000 licensed in the Seattle area. Every 5 years operators have to be retrained. Proceeds will benefit scholarships for RTC and Bates. Larry Leet will be speaking. Next year it will be at RTC. Bates and RTC run parallel in their ideas and Mission Statement.

Heather told Dick that she would like to have a write-up on the event for our next newsletter.

Ricky Robinson – King County Housing Authority

- Things are starting to pick up. There will be good opportunities in construction in the next couple of years. Phase 2 is happening now and Phase 2 of High Point is ready to start.
- Heather will be a speaker at their next meeting on April 18th.

Steve Ignac – LADS

- An invite was extended to everyone to attend the Drywall Contest on June 10th at the Evergreen Fairgrounds in Monroe. There will be 4th year apprentices, newly graduated or new journeymen participating. They will be given 8 hours to build a complete room and will be judged on how well it is built, timeliness and salability. It will be an all day event. Information will be sent out to everyone. Last year one of our apprentices went to Nationals and won 1st place.
- Steve is taking an apprentice to Palm Springs in May for the Wall & Ceiling Convention. There will be live demo. The first day a mock up room will be built. On the second day the plasterers come in and do their thing and on the third day the tapers come in.
- The local apprenticeships are currently talking OSHA 7600 disaster training. They are the first ones in the state to take the training. Holders of the certificate will be able to enter disaster sites.

Beth shared how the Stationary Operators are interested in OSHA 7600 also and she would like to partner with the Duwamish Training Center.

Bill McCartan and Bob Book – Puget Sound Electrical JATC

- There were 60 some graduates on Saturday night (April 1).
- It looks to be a good year and prospects are really high and they are looking for good workers.

Rebecca Harrison – Pierce County Construction Partnership

- Still working closely with CCE/RTC.
- Apprenticeship Fair to be held on April 26th, at Tacoma High School. Hoping to open it up to the district to get more people involved.
- **“In Demand Scholarship”** applications are due April 14th. The “In Demand Scholarship” is for high school seniors in Pierce County who are interested in pursuing education/training in the high demand fields of construction or healthcare. A small piece earmarked for information technology. They are putting together a Speakers Bureau so individuals from the big demand fields can go to high schools and talk to the students. Monies from the scholarship can be used toward books/tuition/tools/rent etc. Last year 25 scholarships were awarded up to \$2,000 a piece.

Beth Blanchard – Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County

- She works with Work Source agencies to help job seekers and employers connect people to jobs.
- In next month, they will be looking at the needs of the youth.
- The “Youth@Work” website should be launched at the end of this week. It will be tool for youth to find jobs that are appropriate for them. Having companies/organizations tag some jobs that would be youth appropriate.
- Need to educate Work Source staff and case managers
- Looking at having a tri-county (Snohomish, King and Pierce) job fair.

Leanne Liddicoat – AGC Education Foundation

- Brought some copies of the new STEPS magazine issue that is being shared with students and other apprenticeship programs.
- This is the time of the year that students are making career decisions. Articles like what Steve Ignac is doing would be great for the magazine – please contact Leanne with possible articles
- Right now looking AGC is look at programs for next year and how can they get people into the industry and provide training.

Sandra Olson – CITC

- HVAC industry is being looked at as possibly being regulated
- Licensing/continuing education and apprenticeship may be required.
- Going to legislature soon.
- Just formed a diversity committee to see how we can meet Hispanic needs. How to reach the Hispanic community and have them see why they should learn the English language especially for safety reasons. Cannot force them to take ESL classes and large majority chose not to go. Would like to have a model created so they could see how it is used.
- Also, looking at different ways to approach women.

Marvin Doster – Mortenson Company

- Ten years ago Mortenson created the Center of Innovation. There were some individuals who spent 2 years traveling around the world looking at other countries and their industries. They wanted to see what could be brought into our industry.
- Mortenson has partnered with Stanford and Disney on creating a 3 – 4D modeling software. Is a great marketing tool.
- Would like to partner with RTC/CCE to look at opportunities they are involved in using the new tools and technology.

Marvin Jenkins – Department of Transportation

- Wanting to be involved with the CCE to help find good workers.
- Sharing a couple of stories about potential workers. One young fellow last year really liked his job but his parents asked him to quit and go a different course. Was very disappointing, and it shows that parents need to get involved with the programs and learn more. Also, there was a young man that interviewed, but initially it was thought he may not do well in the apprenticeship. Recently, Marvin checked up on this young man with Trudy Johnson, who says he is doing a great job.

Arne Reyier – Rushforth Construction

- Arne talked about the great need to influence career guidance in our schools, and make certain an accurate and exciting picture of construction opportunities was given to students and their parents. Expressed concern that parents are often the target group missed in marketing, and they are the harshest critics of an industry they do not fully understand.

Ed Thomas – RTC part-time welding faculty

- Disappointed in seeing how the vocational trade programs are being dropped at some Kent schools.

Denise Salo – Sound Transit

- Update on the commuter rail projects, including the light rail to the airport. Denise echoed Arne, Ed and Marvin's concerns about increasing and improving career guidance, and says she thinks teachers need to be engaged more fully in career guidance. Would like to see teachers in summer construction employment/apprenticeships.

Moe Broom – Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

- Six pieces of legislation pertaining to skill standards have been signed by the Governor.
- One piece of legislation is the "Equivalence Credits" which will relieve some of the pressure on kids who want to move into the trades and be able to transfer credits.
- In the final stages for requirements of standards for construction taught in High Schools

- Project with Heather – increasing articulations from high school construction programs to community and technical colleges. Will start by identifying the schools with NCCER certified instructors.
- Working on standardizing curriculum throughout the state with the national NCCER standards. All students will be taught the same basic skills. It won't be like one school's project is building a bird house vs. another school's project of building a 3 story house. These standards may be used as an alternative to the WASL.

Sam Samano – Snohomish County Construction Careers Council

- Have been working with the people at the Arlington High School and talking to them about the construction industry.
- Parents and counselors need to be better connected in career guidance activities.
- Looking forward to the Job Fair that will be held on October 5th, at the Everett Event Center. Considerable success with last year's event – they will bus students to the center from multiple schools, rather than have many small events throughout the county.

Kelcey Packineau – Yakama Nation TERO

- During the conference he looked at issue and topics associated with K-12.
- Was impressed with the “If I had a Hammer” project through AGC.
- Yakama Nation has a camp at Mt. Adams. They are getting information to implement the “If I Had a Hammer” project at the camp.
- Yakama Nation has gotten a grant for White Swan, which is encountering a lot of problems. Monies will be put into community based areas and will be used to start new programs in the schools.
- Amy Martinez shared with Kelcey information on the “If I Had a Hammer” for women program that is being put together.
- Kathy Thomas would like to have a meeting in Yakima (*Network meeting scheduled 5/22*)
- There is one more core class to do with the TAPIT grant. In the Columbia River area two people went through it. Person gets 88 hours of training and is able to go out and get a job that will pay \$33 + /hr. They are seeing 78% employment.
- Tribal members are looking into moving to the urban areas where there are more work opportunities.
- Treaty Day on the Yakama Reservation is June 9th so he will not be able to participate in the assessment.
- By contract with the EEOC the TERO office can take complaints and pass them on.

Heather told Kelcey that she would like him to do a mini workshop on TERO at the next meeting. She would like all members to eventually do workshops.

Cal Pygott – Bothell High School Construction Academy

- Teaches the construction academy class at Bothell High School
- NCCER curriculum is now becoming the state standard and all teachers have to be certified.
- Cal is a Master Trainer and has just had a class with 32 students/teachers.
- 50+ teachers will be starting the NCCER training in the near future.
- Certificates given out will be an alternative to WASL
- This year, Cal's course had 36 student applicants for 24 spots. Took 25 students. All students are working on job sites between March – June.

- In past 5 years, his course has had 75 students, and 85 % are still in construction. One third of the students continued on to 4 year colleges.
- This year, out of the twenty-five students, 6 are going into Construction Management programs, and 4-5 are taking architect or engineering classes.
- Cal anticipates 30 – 36 more applicants for next year's 24 spots. Students are picked from Bothell, all four North Shore Districts and four Eastside High Schools.
- From day one, soft skills are being taught. Teaching carpentry is the easy part. Teaching them to be an adult is a challenge. If a student is fired from their job they do not pass the class.
- Drilled into the students about drug testing and if they flunk they are out.
- Associated with a lot of companies
 1. Woodinville Lumber donates all the lumber
 2. Wilder Construction works closely with them. ie: sends speakers

Beth Arman - RTC

- RTC is hosting the Tech Knowledge College night for the community and interested students on May 4th – everyone is welcome
- The CCE will be reprising its “Reflections from Women” breakout session from the conference at Tech Knowledge College from 6:15pm to 7:15pm in Blencoe Auditorium, Building C – watch for more information in our next newsletter
- The Construction Management Program will be hiring a full time instructor. If anyone knows of someone who might be interested and is qualified please let Beth know. Person hired will be starting in the fall.

Bits of information:

- AGC Education Foundation is doing radio ads. Young man called in one day after hearing the ad on the radio. Someone is listening....
- Steve Baldwin has been watching the construction jobs posted in the Seattle papers. Last year, the average number of job posting at this time of the year was 250. This year, we've seen an increase to an average of 350+ postings per week.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.