

The Committee convened on August 5, 2012, at 1:00 pm in Indianapolis. The meeting was attended by Ken Sauer for Teresa Lubbers. All members were present either in person (Carol and Jerry) or on a conference line (George and Kent) as well as ICHE Chairmen Ken Sendelweck.

The committee worked from an agenda distributed by Ken Sauer and first considered its charge to be responsible the list of topics distributed with the document titled Standing Committees (2011-2012). The purpose of this discussion was to develop its own work plan for the year.

The Committee reviewed the draft of Guidelines for Submitting New Degree Proposals and a number of specific issues were discussed including the notion that non-distance program degree approval is specific to an Indiana county. All agreed that counties are no longer as useful for such purposes as they may have been and there will be some research added to the discussion to determine the origins of the use of the county for this purpose and to determine if there are other better geographic conceptions that might be readily available for this purpose and whether the use of county boundaries is mandate by statue. Questions were raised about the use of the AA, AS, and AAS designations since it may be that the industries that absorb high numbers of associate degree holders may not understand these designations. There was a discussion of expectations for the number of degrees awarded and enrollment projections as a basis for approval and a recognition that there may be low enrollment and low output of degrees in degree programs, but doesn't mean a waste of resources. The example of physics for undergraduates was used as an example of a department that may not award many degrees, but may have large numbers of students who take two or three course on their way to a pre-med or other graduate professional degree. There were positive comments about the degree of collaboration with the institutions on the development of the new Guidelines, Policies and Procedures.

The comments that were made will be reviewed by Ken Sauer and there will either be changes made in the draft or further explanations given about why changes are not warranted.

The Committee took up the suggestion that it review the emerging paper on new strategies for credit/mobility/transfer opportunities. Given the important place this plays in Reaching Higher the Committee resolved to try to review the documents and have a more formal report and recommendation for the November ICHE meeting.

The Committee agreed that dual credit, dual enrollment, and early college programs are important and the Committee recognized that new legislation has been enacted. The Committee will be happy to receive staff input and recommendations and will review them as quickly as possible with an eye toward having a recommendation to the full ICHE at the earliest time. That should be within the fall term as early as possible.

The Committee agreed that Ken Sauer should make a report on pending degree proposals and get Committee guidance on the path and timing that are appropriate in general. The purpose of this occasional exchange of information and commentary will be to help ICHE staff deal with cases that may be delayed for a variety of reasons.

Teacher education and College Readiness are most important subjects. One Commissioner suggested that they are the most important items on the list. Others cautioned that sometimes important areas of inquiry may not be manageable as topics for committee work. At the request of the Committee, Teresa Lubbers should describe specific ways in which the Committee might engage on these topics including asking the institutions to make a presentation to the ICHE on their collective perspectives on K-12 in Indiana and how they are attempting to contribute to student performance improvement.

In the near term, content development for Conferences may be a partially moot issue since the ICHE already has planned a conference for early in the 2011-2012 academic year and the history of the student and faculty conferences has suggested that the persons appointed to the related positions on

the ICHE be the planners for those conferences – a pattern which seems to have produced good results.

The committee expressed enthusiasm for being informed by staff of global innovations and their relevance to Indiana. It should be the goal of the Committee to bring one or more such innovations to the ICHE for discussion.

ICHE staff should alert all constituencies that they think will be interested and inform them that the Committee meetings are open to the public and that participation by the institutions is especially welcome.

The meeting concluded with a discussion of the IU Regional Campus *Blueprint for Student Attainment*, which had been distributed before the meeting. The distribution did not reach every committee member in time for a thorough reading, but some spoke very favorably and said the document addressed very convincingly the many issues that have been raised over the past 20 years about the role of the IU Regionals. IU VP John Applegate will make a formal presentation the ICHE meeting in Gary later this month.