

STATE APPRENTICESHIP ADVISORY COUNCIL
February 23, 2007 – West Palm Beach, Florida
Meeting Minutes, Page 1 of 4

Members Present: Chairperson, Dr. Bonnie Marmor, Vice Chancellor of the Office of Workforce and Economic Development, Donna Beasley, Billy Campbell, Henry Gonzalez, Cindy Johnson, James Nolan, John Spinella and Jerry Thomas.

Members Absent: Lori Blake, Al Herndon and Arnold Pruitt.

Nancy Cordill, Bureau Chief, Career, Technical and Apprenticeship Programs; and Steve Campora, Apprenticeship Program Director, were present at the Apprenticeship Council meeting.

The meeting of the State Apprenticeship Advisory Council was called to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Palm Coast Joint Training Association, Inc. in West Palm Beach, Florida.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Bonnie Marmor, Chairperson, welcomed the Council Members and attendees. Council Members and DOE Apprenticeship Representatives were recognized. Dr. Marmor provided a medical update on Council Member Lori Blake. Chairperson Marmor thanked the host committee for their work in providing the meeting space and accommodations.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were corrected to reflect the correct name of Council Member James Nolan. Minutes were approved.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Chairperson Marmor described the new organizational structure of the Department of Education. Workforce Education is no longer part of the Division of Community Colleges. Florida School Law 1001.20(4) (b) requires the Office of Workforce and Economic Development to report directly to the Commissioner of Education. Workforce is now a separate unit within the Department of Education. Ms. Lucy Hadi is the new Deputy Commissioner of Workforce Education. Ms. Hadi brings many years of experience in State Government with her to this position. The interim Commissioner of Education is Jeanine Blomberg.

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS FROM OCTOBER 20th MEETING

Federal Approval for State of Florida Apprenticeship Plan – Steve Campora discussed the letter from the Department of Labor (DOL) Apprenticeship Office regarding the findings of the program review of the Florida Apprenticeship Office. The apprenticeship office has responded to the items that were sighted as concerns and is waiting for the final approval of the Florida Apprenticeship program from the DOL. The use of the electronic signatures on official DOL documents appears to be acceptable. Chairperson Marmor will send a letter to the DOL requesting approval to institute the use of electronic signatures.

Florida Database System – Marilyn Hatch, DOE's main conduit for the Apprenticeship Data Base System, recently had open-heart surgery and is recovering. Nancy Cordill reported that the additional funding to support the timely development of the web-based application is not available. We will explore other options when Marilyn returns to work.

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (FACTE)/APPRENTICESHIP

Council member Cindy Johnson presented the proposed by-laws for the Florida Apprenticeship Association (FAA). The FAA will be a separate division of the Florida Association of Career and Technical Educators (FACTE). A motion was made by Gonzalez and seconded by Spinella that the Florida Apprenticeship Association affiliate with FACTE. The motion passed unanimously. Discussions followed regarding the composition of the Florida Apprenticeship Association Board of Directors. A number of options were discussed: (1) the Board of Director officers and members should be comprised of the present Florida Apprenticeship Council for the first two (2) years; and the organization president should be a council member with other board members comprised of Apprenticeship Program Sponsors. The nomination and voting procedure was discussed briefly. No official recommendation was made.

Florida Trend – Nancy Cordill discussed the inclusion of an Apprenticeship article in the Florida Trend Magazine. The Florida Trend 'Next' targets high school students and contains information on postsecondary opportunities, occupational choices and career planning. Dr. Marmor offered that she knew the editor of Florida Trend and would discuss the possibility of including an Apprenticeship article in one of the magazines.

Articulation – Ms. Cordill reviewed the A++ legislation that requires 8th grade students to participate in a career education program and to have developed a career plan before entering the 9th grade. She discussed proposed apprenticeship articulation agreements that will guarantee a minimum of three (3) college credits statewide for apprentices that reach journeyman status. Several of the educational partners and sponsors discussed their local articulation agreements.

Pre-Apprenticeship - Steve Campora discussed pre-apprenticeship programs. He commented that pre-apprenticeship programs vary throughout the state. Some programs are just for high school students, others for adults, and in some cases, both adults and high school students are enrolled in the same programs.

Apprenticeship Funding Formula – Dr. Marmor reported that a Task Force is being formed to receive input, develop strategies and make recommendations for implementation of a fair and equitable funding formula for the 2008-2009 school year.

PRESENTATIONS

Labor Market Information – George Foster, Director of Research for Florida's Workforce Innovation Agency, presented an in-depth labor market presentation. Mr. Foster noted that

Apprenticeship and Technical Education play a major role in the economic development of Florida. Foster's presentation provided reports on employment, wages, careers, job growth, present and future employment trends. Foster also commented that construction industry jobs continued to be a high growth area now and in the future. For further information contact: <http://www.floridajobs.org/> and www.floridawages.com.

Survey Technician Program – Dwight Foster, former Apprenticeship Council member and currently Vice President/Secretary of Florida Training Services, Inc., presented an overview of the Survey Technician Apprenticeship Program. Foster discussed the competency levels required for survey technicians, the wage structure, training aspects and related technical theory requirements and competencies. Foster also noted that the surveying and mapping science of measurements is very technical. Workers with surveying and mapping technical skills are needed worldwide. The initial Apprenticeship program was developed in the Fort Lauderdale area with plans to open additional programs throughout the state. Further information may be obtained by visiting the following web site: www.fsms.org.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Awareness and Marketing – James Nolan

Nolan discussed the Military pamphlet for veterans and provided a sample copy for attendees. Discussions included funding for publishing the pamphlet and placement of the apprenticeship pamphlet in recruitment offices and on the apprenticeship web site. Programs could use the pamphlet and insert their specific Program information for distribution to veteran's offices, military bases and job fairs. The Florida Trend magazine article regarding apprenticeship information was revisited and Public Service Announcements were discussed.

Program Expansion and Development – John Spinella

Spinella attended a Job Fair at the Saint Petersburg Coliseum which was sponsored by various industry representatives to acquire ideas for apprenticeship presentations. This Job Fair attracted many job-seekers. He also attended a Job Fair at Stetson University in Deland to observe non-traditional apprenticeship development. He pointed out associations such as the electronics system technicians, which is comprised of 79 individual companies, as a possible area for apprenticeship expansion. Larry D. McClain, Manager, Technical Utility Training Services of the Jacksonville Electric Authority noted apprenticeship expansion due to new environmental protection licensing requirements. Federal Apprenticeship representative Richard Melton noted that some homeland security agencies may contain apprenticeship occupations.

Legislative Update – Mike Williams, Lobbyist and President of the Florida Building Trades

Williams discussed House Bill 569 – Establishes Construction Education Scholarship Funding Sources. Representatives from the Apprenticeship Community would serve on the Board. Williams noted his activities and meetings with senate and house members regarding legislation

affecting the Apprenticeship Community. He noted the proposed legislation for certification of Crane Operators. Williams also discussed proposed legislation that would deny benefits to workers injured on the job in work activities outside of their craft.

RECOGNITIONS:

Certificate of Meritorious Award to Laura Laseman

Bill Lauver, DOE Apprenticeship Representative from Jacksonville, made a presentation to Laura Laseman. Ms. Laseman has been participating in the registered apprenticeship system for more than 33 years. She was the Director for the Northeast Florida Builders Association in the trades of Carpenter, Electrician, Heating & Air Conditioning, Plumber and Sheet Metal Worker. Laura was recognized for her leadership of the apprenticeship system in Florida, her contributions to the Florida Apprenticeship Council and her tireless efforts on behalf of apprentices in the state of Florida.

Apprenticeship Completion for Randall Moody, Jr.

Council Member James Nolan made a poignant, posthumous recount of apprentice Randall Moody, Jr.'s training activities and dedication to apprenticeship. He previously requested a Completion Certificate for Mr. Moody for presentation to Moody's family. The Completion Certificate was issued and Mr. Nolan made the presentation on behalf of the Apprenticeship Community.

Certificate of Appreciation – DOE Apprenticeship Representative, Valvery Hillsman

Dwight Foster, Vice-President of Florida Training Services, Inc., presented Ms. Hillsman with a Certificate of Appreciation for her services and activities related to development of the Survey Technician Apprenticeship Program in the Fort Lauderdale area.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **APPRENTICESHIP DAY – MARCH 15, 2007 – TALLAHASSEE**
- **FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING – ORLANDO – 5/11/07 – 9:00 AM -
Apprenticeship Building --- Mid-Florida Tech**
- **FACTE CONFERENCE – JULY 31 – AUGUST 2ND, 2007**

Motion to Adjourn by Beasley, seconded by Thomas at 1:00 p.m.