

Perkins IV – Grants Sub-Committee
AUDIO CONFERENCE MEETING
December 7, 2006

Minutes:

The meeting began at 2:00 p.m. with roll call and introductions by Grants Sub-Committee co-chair, Gloria Spradley-Brown.

Committee members in attendance: Alan Applebaun (Broward Community College), David Edwards (Alachua County Schools), Elizabeth Gombash, **co-chair** (Valencia Community College), Andre Hawkins (Indian River Community College), Rosemary James (Florida Community College), Eduardo Rivas (Miami Dade College), Jeff Stevenson (Gulf Coast Community College) **DOE Staff:** Gloria Spradley, Ike Gibson, Linda Meadows, Jennifer Selfe, Julie Alexander, John McNeely, Ken Plummer

Ms. Spradley provided an overview of the current status of the Perkins planning process and suggestions regarding the proposed outcomes of the process.

Overview of the Transition Planning Process:

- Meetings of the various Perkins planning sub-committees are already in progress
- Goal of the overall process is to have Florida's Transition State Plan and 2007-2008 Carl Perkins RFPs finalized and approved for public release in time for July 1st project awards and start date.
- Grants sub-committee will take input from the other sub-committees and use it to develop a RFP that local programs can effectively implement.
- Grants sub-committee is currently in somewhat of a holding pattern...Several programmatic and accountability issues that impact the direction, role and function of the Grants sub-committee are being discussed in other sub-committees and decisions are currently pending on those issues.
- The CTE and Accountability sub-committees are tackling data issues related to state restrictions which are allowable according to federal guidelines.
- Perkins IV website will host the most up-to-date accounts of the planning process and related information.

Transition Plan – Highlights:

- Transition plan guidance from Washington specifies what must be included in the state transition plan.
- The distribution formula will not be changed for the transition year. However, the secondary/postsecondary distribution is being studied for possible adjustments.
- Tech Prep will remain as a separate allocation for the transition year. The sub-committee will review the situation and make recommendations regarding the status of this allocation for future years.
- Additional accountability measures will be a factor in the transition year and beyond. One major change is local programs may be held accountable for the same federal performance measures as the state.
- Florida's Transition Plan must be submitted to Washington in February, 2007.
- Perkins RFPs must be submitted for approval after approval of the Transition Plan.

Program of Study – Highlights:

- Each program is required to submit at least one program of study.
- The big question to be answered is in what format should programs of study be submitted? A variety of options are being considered. More input on this issue is needed...
- A template that allows various programs to be analyzed was recommended.

Time-line:

- Things are moving and must continue to move very quickly.
- OVAE guidance does not provide sufficient time to implement the Transition Plan by July 1, 2007.

Perkins Summit:

- A proposed January 30th meeting, hosted by DOE, for sub-committees to convene and incorporate input for synthesis and Transitional Plan development. In all likelihood, the meeting will be held in Orlando. More details to come...
- Incentive and sanctions anticipated to be a major topic of discussion at the upcoming summit. Committee members are urged to come prepared to make specific recommendations regarding this very important issue.

Questions/Comments/Concerns:

- Andre Hawkins (IRCC) – requested a copy of the State Directors’ response (e-mail sent out by Bonnie Marmor dated 12/7/07).
- David Edwards (Alachua) – Concern expressed about data reporting which currently limits a “building level” assessment of where (potentially) weak or deficient programs exist. He suggested that the State needs to provide data that allows analysis of whether existing programs are operating effectively or are in need of improvement. A point was further made that data often suggests that some programs can NOT be improved – without starting a new program (presumably to increase enrollment). However, program improvement is not (always) the same as ‘increased enrollment’.

Concluding Points:

- Input regarding the issues at hand are needed and considered valuable to the Transition Planning process.
- Most Grants Sub-committee meetings will be held in the audio conference format or, possibly, via video-conference technology.
- No formal meetings to be held before the Jan. 30 summit.

Meeting adjourned at 3 p.m.