Members Present:
Dan Fey – Dean, Workforce Education SCC
Faith Lam – Administrative Assistant, Workforce Education, SCC
Stephanie Tschanz – Employment Security Rep
Shelby Creager – Financial Aid Program Specialist, SCC
Ann Martin-Cummings – Budget Analyst 2, SCC
Kevin Conefrey – VP of Human Resources, First Choice Health
Jason Redrup – Union Business Rep
Henry Gillon – WorkSource North Seattle
Pamela Gee-Oliver – Human Resources, Bio-Rad Laboratories
Gordon M. Denby – Senior Principal, GeoEngineers

Agenda Overview

Members Introduction

Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Minutes from the April 16, 2013 meeting was approved

Review of Current Year’s (2013 – 2014) Worker Retraining Plan
- Kim Cambern provided 2013 Summer – 2014 Spring 4-quarters breakdown of Worker Retraining information on student enrollment, credits, FTE’s, and funding. Kim’s data suggests this year’s utilization of the Worker Retraining funds is in-line with the original FY13-14 WRT plan.
- Professional-Technical programs with high Worker Retraining students enrollment include: Nursing, Business Administration, Health Informatics and Information Management, and CNC/Machining
- Upon review of the data, the members have the following input:
  - Henry: Question on the status of Engineer Technology/ CAD Drafting – it shows 0 enrollment
  - Gordon and Pamela both suggested that it would be useful to see the total numbers of the students (WRT and non-WRT) enrolled in each prof-tech program, so as to see the percentage of WRT students in a given program.
  - Pamela suggested that it would also be useful to compare the WRT students enrollment percentages in a given program between current and previous years.
Review of Next Year’s (2014-2015) Worker Retraining Plan

- Dan pointed out next year’s Worker Retraining planning number is very similar to this year’s, with total allocation around $1.3 million dollars.
- Dan invited members to further review the FY14-15 WRT Plan and provide feedback.
- Program offerings remain mostly unchanged with the exception that Criminal Justice is no longer on the state’s list as an in-demand occupation/program.
- The state also disqualified Clean Energy Technology as an in-demand program at one point, but Dan had filed an appeal to the State to put it back on the eligible training list.
- Henry is interested in the causes of Criminal Justice falling off the list – decrease in crime rate?
- Pam suggested the potential that criminal justice occupations are experiencing a decline in wages, hence the State no longer considers it an in-demand occupation.

Discussions/ Questions related to Worker Retraining (not directly related to FY14-15 WRT Plan)

- Gordon commented on the operation of the WRT program also demanded a deeper look into a community college’s mission/operational philosophy: should community colleges focus more on pragmatic, employment-related training, or should their focus be on broad-based, education of the whole person?
- Kevin: suggestion of using employment security database/creating a WRT student database to track WRT graduate employment information; Kevin acknowledged the difficulty in collecting data once students graduate.
- Pamela suggested sourcing graduate employment information using alumni network.
- Stephanie prepared hand-outs on wage placement info.
- Henry also brought up the general difficulty of finding employment within the field that students received training – 42% of students trained on WEA funds do not return to/find employment in their trained field.
- Members also commented on the reality that students often drop out of training programs when they are offered employment (students have the urgent need to work/make a living given their situation).

Labor Market Trends Update

- Dan provided information on King County employment projection of 2013 – 2023.
- Steady job growth is projected over the next 10 years: government hiring is coming back after the hiring cut-back 6 to 7 years ago.
- King County industries with highest projected job growth percentage: construction, admin/support, technology, and information science.
- Industries with highest projected wages: software publishing, wireless communication, internet publishing.
As evident from Dan’s data, members agreed that computer science and informational technology will continue to be a major industry in King County and it is important for the school to better prepare students for career options in these fields; members acknowledged the need for the school to provide higher level of computer science training in the school.

Members suggestions pertaining to the labor market:
- Pam: it would be helpful to get in touch with 2 to 3 employers from the top hiring companies to identify what specific skills are needed for the top occupations.
- Henry offered to bring in an LMEA contact for presentation at the next meeting if interested.
- Dan mentioned that the school is purchasing an EMSI database which is a powerful tool for employment information.

Members also commented on current retirement statistics and its implication on the job market: people are retiring later because of increased longevity and rising health care cost; there are retirees who return to work yet their training options are limited by their physical strength (ex: construction is very physically demanding).

Kevin’s question: does King County’s job growth projection data include Seattle in its figures?

Addressing Questions from Kevin from Previous Meeting:
- Kevin’s initial question/ request: statistics/ data on WRT Nursing student enrollment – Kim Cambern prepared pie charts to address the question.
- Further comments from Kevin: Nursing is a very rigorous program with high drop-out rate; many WRT students who were initially enrolled in pre-nursing courses (taking nursing pre-requisite classes) eventually leave the program. From an investor’s perspective, is there a need to adjust the WRT money allocated on Nursing program given its high drop-out rate?

Identifying/ Selecting a Chairperson for the Workforce Advisory Committee:
- Kevin Conefrey was selected as the new Workforce Advisory Committee chair.

Next (Fall) Meeting Date:
- To be decided by Dan and Kevin.

Additional Updates from Members:
- Henry recognized Stephanie for helping 50 WorkSource clients obtain work.
- Stephanie shared hand-outs on wages information for different prof-tech programs graduates.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.

Minutes taken by Faith Lam.