Education Program Advisory Committee Agenda - Shoreline Community College  
Meeting Notes: Wednesday, January 24 - 4:00 – 5:00


- Minutes of last meeting were reviewed and discussed

- General update on industry trends –
  - Barbara indicated that ECEAP standards had changed, and offered to forward a copy of those to Betty.
  - The implications of the Washington Learns report were briefly discussed; it is anticipated that there will be funding announced for continuing education opportunities for early childhood professionals. This may mean upcoming grant opportunities for our program.

- I-BEST - a possible new program in Education at Shoreline for ESL students was discussed. There are concerns about the efficacy of developing this program, as industry standards are increasing. A certificate in childcare doesn’t hold much weight, in terms of the types of credentials that are needed for work that pays more than minimum wage. Head Start and ECEAP now require 2-year degrees for lead teacher positions, state licensing requires 45 ECE credits, and there is a trend to push for B.A. level credentials for early childhood in upcoming years. Perhaps the focus of an I-BEST program could be in-home care programs and promoting entrepreneurial activity. At the very least, as the possibility of pursuing the I-BEST program is discussed, it needs to be clear that this program will not produce graduates who are prepared to enter the workplace with jobs that can support a family. They can, however, start people on a path that can lead to a 2-year degree in Education, or beyond.

- Update on Shoreline’s involvement in Seattle’s ELN program – We are offering neighborhood classes again, in south Seattle, to support the efforts of the Early Learning Network in providing education opportunities for the staff in the child care centers that are part of this program. It is anticipated that we will offer one or two evening courses each quarter, on a self-sustaining basis.

- Plans for revived evening program – We had an on-campus evening program in the past that was pretty well attended. We will offer on-campus evening classes again, starting spring quarter, to determine if this is a viable option, again.

- Discuss possible curriculum changes – develop a course in Math/Science for ECE in response to current focus on this subject area? The advisory committee was enthusiastic about this possibility.
Changes in electives to include new ASL for Human Services class and Speech Language Pathology Introductory course? These possibilities were also supported by the advisory committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00