Worker Retraining Advisory Committee
Shoreline Community College
April 24, 2007


Call to order: Berta welcomed those attending and introductions were made around the table.

Minutes: The December 7, 2006 minutes were corrected to record Kim Cambern, Ann Ludwig, and Donsa Benitez as present.

Berta introduced SCC President Lee Lambert who brought words of welcome to the group. In his remarks, he emphasized the reality of the global economy and the need for American workers to understand others in the increasingly competitive world marketplace. A strong link is needed between industry and education, as workers seek more training to update skills. In addition, solutions to issues surrounding the educational achievement gap affecting primarily African American and Hispanic communities must be addressed as well as global environmental issues. President Lambert stated that SCC is working toward strengthening its partnerships in the workforce and economic development areas in order to meet the rising demands for training workers.

WRT RFP Discussion
Berta led a review of the proposed 2007-08 Worker Retraining Plan for Shoreline Community College. WRT Plan highlights:

- SCC expects to serve 230 worker retraining students.
- SCC works in coordination with Workforce Development Councils, Economic Development Councils and other local partners.
- The College supports WorkSource North Seattle with a co-location person and participates in Rapid Response activities.
- SCC training programs targeted for WRT funding: Health Care, Biotechnology, Information Tech, Business Services, Manufacturing, Aerospace/Manufacturing, Automotive.
- Expanded Eligibility Policy to assist potential incumbent workers.
- The WRT budget for 2007-08 is $1,007,530.

Advisory committee members in attendance approved Shoreline’s 2007-08 Worker Retraining Plan. Electronic copies were sent to members unable to be present.

Workforce Trends
Worker Retraining
Kim presented a comprehensive update on the Worker Retraining program including:
An enrollment summary reflecting declining enrollments over the past 4 years.
Recruitment/funding concerns including the 1993 FTE reimbursement rate of $4,611 still in effect.
WIA partners funding levels.
Spring quarter WRT demographics showing a population shift to more females than males and an increased number of “degreed” individuals returning to upgrade job skills.
Possible solutions.
The new Expanded Eligibility Policy targeting dislocated and vulnerable workers in specific occupations.
The Corridor – A Worker Retraining electronic newsletter directed to employers, labor and partners published by several area partners.

The new Food Stamp program (FSET) which may assist Worker Retraining students.

WRT/WorkFirst FA
Rose recapped the WRT/WorkFirst report from the Financial Aid office for committee members. She indicated that the total overspent as of April 23, 2007 ($37,815.86) was offset by $20,000 moved from Program Development monies and $40,000 approved from the State Board for the WRTFA student budget. The remaining $22,184.14 will be available as Training Completion Aid (TCA) to support living expenses for students.

WorkFirst
Barbara Loney highlighted Spring 2007 programs from the WorkFirst Program report with brief descriptions of the following programs: Certified Nursing Assistant, Business Life Skills, WorkStudy, High Wage-High Demand, Vocational Education, ABE/GED/ESL, and Fundamentals of Caregiving for ESL. The WorkFirst Program provides financial support for tuition, fees, and books to low income parents on welfare or who live at 75% of the poverty line. Barbara reported that the WorkFirst staff are in contact with 20-30 TANF individuals each month, and the program experiences a remarkable success rate in numbers of completers.

Perkins
Berta reported that Perkins IV passed the Legislature in August 2006, and SCC will receive approximately $260,000, an increase of $20,000 over FY07. In addition, unspent FY07 Perkins money from community colleges in the state will be reallocated by the SBCTC in the Fall. She also extended thanks to Ann Martin-Cummins for her work in coding professional-technical program completers, which directly affects SCC’s funding.

New Chair/Fall Meeting
The committee agreed to elect a new chairperson at the next meeting in the Fall – probably in November. The committee will continue to meet over the lunch hour.

Scott congratulated SCC for representing a high level of training that sends well-prepared students into the workforce.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Minutes recorded by Jeanne Skaare.