

Gender Equity Advisory Committee Meeting

October 7, 2011

10:00 a.m.

14th Floor, NE Conference Room

100 W. Randolph

Chicago, IL 60602

Minutes

Welcome & Introductions

Debbie Hopper called the meeting to order at 10:05 am along with a welcome to members and guests.

Introductions showed the following present:

Members-Wendy Howerter, Paul Nijensohn, Diane Albert, Penny Lauritzen, Sandra Westlund-Deenihan, Wanda Andrews, Debbie Hopper, JuliaAnn Oglesby, Lolita Hardiman.

Guests: Michael Cermak Illinois State University CTE Special Populations Leadership Project and Amber Kirchhoff Policy Analyst Education and Early Childhood, Office of the Governor.

Legislation Vision and Purpose

A copy of the legislation was provided. Discussion was held regarding the purpose of the committee per the legislation.

Election of Chairperson

As a newly appointed board, Diane Albert nominated Lolita Hardiman to serve as GEAC chair. Lolita accepted as a second to the nomination and was elected unanimously. Debbie will continue to serve as secretary.

Approval of the Minutes

Paul Nijensohn moved to accept the minutes of the June 4 and September 30, 2010 minutes. Penny Lauritzen seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.

ISBE Update

Debbie Hopper introduced Michael Cermak as the new ISBE CTE Special Populations Leadership Project Director. Michael provided background information and that the project is on Facebook and illinoiscte.org will be the project website. Discussion was held regarding prior ISBE project deliverables such as the CTE Works. The project will be focused on delivering five categories of activities which includes: Performance assessment and accountability training, special populations website, professional development, technical assistance, and innovative initiatives support.

Non-Traditional Performance Report

Members were provided a partial copy of the FY10 CTE State Summary Report for their review and information. A hard copy of the Strategies for Improving Performance report, which is completed by regional education for employment systems in effort to analyze data to guide regional activities to improve student performance on the Perkins core indicators, was also briefly reviewed. After some discussion, members will review the information and further discussion will be held at the next meeting, including the performance percentages (6S1) on the strategies for performance document.

Debbie reported that Illinois continues to be a member state of the National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE). It was also noted that support for national leadership over the past few years has been much appreciated and has provided valuable information and opportunities for Illinois. Illinois continues to be a part of the STEM-Equity Pipeline Project.

Partner Updates and Initiatives

Motorola Solutions Innovations Grant- Sandra Westlund-Deenihan provided information regarding her dedication to assist in developing a skilled workforce for now and the future. A copy of the Motorola Solutions Foundation Innovation grant news release regarding the collaboration between Illinois school district U-46 and the NAPE-Education Foundation was shared and activities were highlighted. The grant establishes a science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) Equity Academy to engage 40 teachers, administrators, counselors and faculty from five high schools in intensive professional development to implement research-based practices to increase access, success and post-secondary transition of girls and other underrepresented groups in STEM.

Women Changing the Face of Agriculture-Penny Lauritzen expanded on the 3rd annual Women Changing the Face of Agriculture “*building steam.....women in science, technology, engineering, AGRICULTURE, & math*” career event to take place march 9, 2012 in Champaign. Discussion included the need to support equitable career guidance, mentoring, and parent involvement.

Illinois Association of Vocational Education Special Needs Personnel (ILAVESNP)-Julia Olgesby this professional affiliate of the Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education(IACTE) is struggling and anticipates being defunct in the near future. The group is planning special needs sessions for the IACTE conference scheduled for February 16-17, 2012 in Normal.

Wendy Howerter submitted that she will be attending the Institute for Women in Trades Technology and Science (IWITTS) later this month.

Paul Nijensohn shared the Statewide Transition Conference is October 23-25 in Springfield. This conference is for high school aged students and young adults

with disabilities, their family members and teachers, vocational professionals, caregivers, health care professionals, college students pursuing careers in special education and community advocates.

Amber Kirchhoff shared the P-20 Council meeting will be October 26 and is open to the public. The Illinois school report card, longitudinal data system, social and human services and improvement plans are topics of the P-20 Council.

New Business

Electronic Meetings-Discussion was held regarding electronic attendance of members at meetings. Diane Albert submitted a motion to allow electronic attendance by appointed members to provide quorum status. Motion was seconded by Paul Nijensohn and the motion was carried unanimously.

Establishment of regular meeting dates will be an agenda item at the next meeting.

Next Steps

Next meeting is November 4 in Springfield at the ISBE building. Submit information for the agenda to Debbie Hopper or Lolita Hardiman by October 21.

Lolita requested reflection of congratulations to Sandra regarding the Motorola Solutions Innovations grant and to Penny for continued increase in attendance at the Women Changing the Face of Agriculture career event.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Hopper