

Military Strategic Implementation Team
Wednesday, April 30, 2014
B-004, 25 South Front Street, Columbus, OH 43215

Updates

- Mr. Hideo Tsuchida and Mr. Mike Carrell gave updates at the OATN Registrars and Admissions Meeting.
- Two more State Approving Agency employees have been added.
- More flexibility is needed from Veterans Affairs. Senator Portman's staff is working with Mr. Rick DeChant on certain programs (i.e. licensure on the Washington end)
- Mr. Carrell distributed a handout with a table. He also passed it out at the Registrars and Admissions meeting last week.
- There is confusion and fear over not charging fees.
- The Higher Learning Commission's current guidelines for the amount of PLA credit need to be researched.
 - The presentation from the PLA conference will be posted to the [website](#)
- OBR held an internal meeting to discuss OCOG
 - An exemption was recommended for cost of attendance
 - Ohio National Guard Scholarship should cover any state institution.
 - OCOG would apply to the 4yr institutions.

Discussion of Ohio SAP Survey Results

- The recommendation sent to the federal government was that more dialogue is needed.
- The Department of Defense is taking over and making the final recommendation to the White House.
- A policy should be developed and sent to the Chancellor with 3 or 4 bullets to form a position on SAP issues for Ohio. Considering that this is a federal financial aid issue, we need to choose bullet points that will make the most sense when shared.
- SOC and ACE will be in attendance at the next Multi-State Collaborative on Military Credit (MCMC) meeting in Indianapolis.
 - The task force answers to 3 areas: DOD, DOE, and Veterans Affairs.
 - The luncheon discussion at the next MCMC is on the survey results.
- Mr. Brad Myers would like to know from financial aid how flexible or not things really are.
 - It would be good to have compliance officers in the financial aid offices to respond to the write-up.
 - The write-up would also have more weight because it has been vetted by the financial aid directors.
 - The write up will be sent out to the financial aid directors for comment.

Work Group Reports and Discussion

Group 1 (*Brad Myers, Karla Mugler*) – Recommendations on Appeal Process, Priority Registration, Identification of Veterans, and Fees

- #3 is in the legislation. Dr. Karla Mugler is going to draft a letter/memo to transfer coordinators that will also touch upon #7.
- Feedback is needed on the population of students for fees charged. Is this a small or large portion? If large, we can help the institutions with strategies.
- Per Ohio's Articulation and Transfer Policy, every institution must have a transfer credit appeals process. How do we tap into the existing process?
- Identification and tracking
 - Wisconsin and Arizona were only tracking financial benefits.
 - Many institutions ask "Are you a veteran?" This is very abstract. More outreach is needed.
- #6 Priority Registration is in the legislation. Advice/strategies need to be provided to institutions, especially those schools that do not have any kind of priority registration currently.
- Group 1 is getting input from 2-yr institutions (Sinclair, Tri-C, Cincinnati State).
- A few ideas were brainstormed:
 - Moving to the top of the wait list
 - If deployed, could someone register for them?
 - Mini-semesters with a later start date
- We need to get creative. Consider what was done in the Lansing Community College Paramedic Program. Fast-tracking. Think outside the box, then make a recommendation.
 - The proprietary schools are already doing some of these things. We need to look at what they are doing well. There may be some best practices there.
 - Dr. Jean Chappell is going to start talking with Ms. Deena Davis at Cincinnati State about the Paramedic program.
- Straighter Line
 - Lots of questions
 - Lunch presentation at PLA Conference
 - OSU accepts Straighter Line credit.
 - Much of it is covered by ACE.
 - Wright State University looks at the ACE recommendations.
 - Many people don't know what it is. More information is needed in the field.
 - Not regionally accredited
 - Need to explain why or why not credits will be accepted
 - ACE and CAEL endorsed them, but being paid to evaluate them.
- If anyone needs to add a question to the survey that Group #1 is sending let Dr. Mugler know.

Group 2 (*Jared Shank, Joe Law, Jean Chappell*) – Recommendation on MTAGs and Baseline Set of Standards and Procedures

- Data have been gathered. Group 2 still needs to determine how much work it will be to organize and analyze the data.
 - If they need help, they should let Dr. Compton know.
 - MTAGs need to be developed by December to meet the deadline.
 - Mission Continues Program may be an opportunity to find a volunteer to help with this non-profit work.
- The OTM Faculty Subcommittee needs to be involved in this process. What does this work mean for general education courses?
- A strategy is needed to bring in faculty. Maybe someone on the team can talk to the 2-yr Faculty Senate?
- Mr. Jared Shank mentioned the following action statement from #1 “(ACE should also be encouraged to provide more comprehensive information and additional training on their credit recommendations)” He asked if this is part of the concern for general education?
 - Mr. Carrell mentioned that many are doing class time before deployment on the culture.
 - Mr. Shank mentioned that this is not documented on the DD-214.
 - Dr. Compton said that more information is needed. More research needs to be done. Conversations are needed with the faculty.
- An ACE representative should be invited to the OTM Faculty Subcommittee meeting.
- Dr. Patricia Brewer from the ACE would have more information about the Review in a Box simulation.
- Consider for technical areas:
 - Tuning USA – based on competencies and learning outcomes. Would bring together faculty, military, and industry representatives.
 - Dr. Compton has some support to make this happen. May work well for a technical area.

Group 3 (*Mike Carrell, Barbara Henry, Rick DeChant, James Favuzzi*) – Recommendations on a Single Point of Contact and Orientation

- #4 Single point of contact.
 - Needs to be promoted even though it is in the law.
 - Certifiers understand the need. The remainder of the institution needs to understand as well.
 - Suggestions are needed for implementation.
 - Need to explain more about the separation of the position from the certifying official position.
 - The two roles can have some overlap. Serve as backup. Sit next to each other in the same office. Group 3 will write up the details.
- Orientation – Developing a baseline set of standards

- Those who already have an orientation see the value.
- Establishing the minimums is needed.
- Bring County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO) into it. Also the community.
- Web repository of topics and pieces
- Cuyahoga Community College does a separate orientation each year with staff and faculty on things that have changed.
- Dr. Compton asked the whole team if they thought a booklet should be produced at the end of this process. Does a professional writer need to be brought into this meeting (Mr. Don Van Meter)?
 - Mr. Carrell replied that a writer would be needed if the team wants the results of this work to be in a single voice.
 - Care will need to be taken to ensure that the content does not get watered down during the writing process.
 - Dr. Chappell added that having a nice polished document will add credibility to the final results.
 - Dr. Compton will look into this.

Group 4 (*Barbara Henry, Mike Carrell, James Funk, James Favuzzi*) – Recommendation on Translating Experience, Facilitating Training, and Developing a Baseline Set of Standards and Procedures for Military Credit Process

- #2 Beginning levels of guidelines within the next 3 weeks.
 - Toolkit for PLA might be a nice resource.
 - Dr. Barbara Henry has an upcoming phone conversation with Dr. Steve Franz from Minnesota.
- #10 Training
 - Conversation with Dr. Patricia Brewer from the ACE
 - Dr. Henry asked if there would be funding to bring Dr. Brewer or someone like her in to do the training.
 - There may not be a charge for this type of training.
 - The group is developing a list of outcomes for the training.
 - The group is developing a list of who should be there.
 - The training needs to be tailored for a variety of groups.
 - Raising awareness of all the pieces of this team’s work can be included.
 - Conferences
 - Have panel people at conferences
 - ACPA and NASPA have state chapters. NASPA is in Columbus this November. Mr. Carrell will try to get on the program for the NASPA.
 - Southwestern Ohio Council for Higher Education (SOCHE) has not done anything on military, yet.
 - There is a call for presenters for the community college conference in October.
 - Would it be possible to get a list of the statewide meetings of different groups?

- The panel will participate. Will OBR request the update be added to the agenda?
- Potential timeline: Draft plan complete by August. The group will have until December for logistics. Spring semester for the actual training. Identify train-the-trainers in August-December. Webinar pieces in January-February during the winter months.
- Send nomination of train-the-trainers to institutions in August.

Next Steps

- There may be a need for something to be communicated earlier than the fall to let institutions know the legislation is coming. The passage of the law might be a good opportunity.
- Need to continue getting input from institutions.
- Include history of the MSIT group's formation (because of the recommendations) into the letter to institutions. The legislation changed the timetable and focus.
- Need panel members to go out to organizations and talk.
- Document the reaching out to institutions for input that is going on so those participants can be included in the booklet chapters.
- OACCRO meeting in October
- Need to reach out/communicate with both faculty and staff/administration.
- Need to develop a plan for reaching out to the faculty. One of the biggest opportunities we have is to get faculty involved.
- No one had anything to add to Group One's survey
- Need to talk with the ACE about what specifically is needed. ACE is doing some webinars.
- Half an hour was long enough for the Work Group work. Do this again for the May 21st meeting.
- Need an agenda item on the 2-yr/4-yr Provost/CAO meetings. Provide an update and make sure that they know that we'll be asking for a train-the-trainer and a backup.
- Thank institutional presidents and provosts for allowing members of their staff and administration to participate on the MSIT.
- Need to map out a calendar.
- Should possibly do a conference call for Veterans affairs groups (i.e., State Approving Agency/Ohio Department of Veterans Services). Mr. Eli Faes might have a list.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:04pm.