

**Minutes of the VSC Board of Trustees Education, Personnel, and Student Life Committee meeting Tuesday, June 20, 2017 – APPROVED August 23, 2017**

*Note: These are unapproved minutes, subject to amendment and/or approval at the subsequent meeting.*

The VSC Board of Trustees Education, Personnel, and Student Life Committee met on Tuesday June 20, 2017 at the Office of the Chancellor, Montpelier, VT.

Committee Members present: Aly Richard (Chair), Lynn Dickinson, Karen Luneau

Presidents: Nolan Atkins, Elaine Collins, Joyce Judy, Pat Moulton, Dave Wolk

Other Trustees: Jerry Diamond, Tim Jerman, Chris MacFarlane, Church Hindes

From the Chancellor's Office: Kevin Conroy, Chief Information Officer  
Todd Daloz, Associate General Counsel  
Jeb Spaulding, Chancellor  
Sophie Zdatny, General Counsel  
Yasmine Ziesler, Chief Academic Officer  
Harriet Johnson, Executive Assistant  
Tricia Coates, Director of External & Governmental Affairs

From the colleges:

Barb Flathers, Vice President, VSCUP  
Lisa Cline, President, VSCUP  
Laura Jakubowski, Director of Finance, Castleton University  
Scott Dikeman, Dean of Administration, Castleton University  
Beth Walsh, President, VSCUP  
Nolan Atkins, Interim President, Lyndon State College  
Jonathan Spiro, Academic Dean, Castleton University (by phone)

Guests: Sarah Ancel, Vice President for State Policy, Complete College America (via virtual presentation)

1. Call to Order

Chair Richards called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m. As there was not a quorum, the meeting was determined to be an informational meeting.

Chancellor Spaulding and Academic Officer Yasmine Ziesler gave a brief background of the presentation from Complete College America and how it aligns with the Board-approved Six Strategic Priorities, and how this is an opportunity to learn from other states and the expertise that Complete College America has gained.

2. Approval of 3-24-2017 Meeting Minutes

Due to lack of a quorum, it was determined the March 24, 2017 minutes would be approved at the June 20, 2017 meeting.

3. Achieving Significant Improvement in Student Success and Completion: Presentation and Discussion with Sarah Ancel, Vice President for State Policy with Complete College America

Chair Richards introduced Sarah Ancel with Complete College America. Ms. Ancel offered a virtual presentation on her current work which includes working with state and system leaders to advance policies proven to increase college completion and close achievement gaps.

Their mission is to significantly increase the number of Americans with quality career certificates or college degrees; and close the attainment gaps for traditionally underserved populations. Their approach is to work with states, systems and consortia to implement evidence-based strategies at scale to see double-digit gains in outcomes. She explained their approach and provided data on graduation rates.

Ms. Ancel presented her 5 game changing strategies for getting results.

1. 15 to finish: is designed to help students achieve 15 credits a semester and to understand what it is going to take to help them to graduate on time.
2. Math pathway: is a math faculty driven effort to create different paths for students based on the meta-major of the area of study. All the paths lead to quantitative skills that will be relevant for the student's career once they graduate and for navigating our data-driven society.

3. Corequisite Remediation:

The goal is to have students enroll directly into college-level courses and to provide academic support as a corequisite in the same semester, not a prerequisite.

4. Guided Pathways – GPS

Students don't have a clear path through higher education and often see it as a maze rather than a pathway. Data shows almost half of excess credits are not coming from academic challenges but from poor student choices, transfer problems, unavailable courses, and degree requirements. Guided Pathways is set up to help solve this issue

by designing an academic plan for the non-traditional student to allow them to graduate on time and avoid obstacles.

5. Structured Schedules and a Better Deal:

Designed to help non-traditional students work with a structured schedule.

Chancellor Spaulding discussed pulling together a coordinated effort for VSC to consider engaging in similar strategies.

The Trustees along with the Presidents continued discussion on the presentation and discussed how to make pathways work in Vermont.

4. Discussion of Potential EPSL Focus Topics for 2017-2018

Chair Richards indicated the committee will focus on the discussion of EPSL focus topics for 2017-2018 at the August meeting.

5. Other Business

Chair Richards discussed the future work of the EPSL Committee including review of Policy 101 for Academic Quality, and Policy 109 for Program Enrollment and Cost. Work on program approvals, faculty fellows, emeritus status and honorary degrees. Chair Richards asked for everyone to think about their priorities such as affordability, completion, retention and to have informational sessions, along with guided initiations that move them along from there.

Chancellor Spaulding asked the EPSL Committee to develop a program with multiple components for the Vermont State Colleges system.

President Moulton also stated mapping pathways from high school to college is important as we look at enhancing retention.

6. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

7. Adjourn

Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.