



OPAS Initiative
Motivate Workgroup Meeting #4
June 7, 2007

Workgroup Status Summaries

Most Recent Status Reports:

Succeed Strategy - Eda Davis-Butts:

The most recent meeting was held via teleconference May 24, 2007.

The group reviewed a list of currently known educator conferences, events, and meetings as possible venues for presentation of the Succeed Workgroup materials – the “Road Show” under development and the White Paper “Fostering STEM Diversity”. The group added substantially to the list and prioritized these venues for informal contact in 2007 and formal presentations in 2008. Workgroup members volunteered to further research these venues.

- COSA (Council of School Administrators) - Eda
- OACTE (Oregon Association of Career and Technical Educators) - Mary
- Oregon Math Leaders - Don
- Superintendent’s Summer Institute (ODE) - Mary
- CTAG (ODE’s Closing the Achievement Gap Conference) - Mary
- Workforce Investment Groups – Jo

The group decided that planning a new event is not the best use of resources at this time, but that if another workgroup or closely allied group such as NOISE decides to host another event, we are willing to collaborate to ensure inclusiveness issues are addressed. We will keep our eyes open for additional opportunities for informal and formal presentation of materials, viewpoint, and contacts. Jo will work on a one-page issue brief on OPAS and the Succeed Workgroup.

Eda plans to work on completing the “Road Show” documents for the first meeting following the summer break.

OPAS Initiative 2007: Motivate Workgroup Meeting #4 – June 7, 2007

1

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Action items and information points from the previous meeting were reviewed. Eda and Don agreed to forward additional information on current perceptions of teachers and students around STEM; Jo will summarize and distribute the results of the collective research. The group would like to raise a flag about using the Hillsboro School-to-Work program as a model when no demographic data exists; Jo will bring this point up with Mary Beth Horton of the BEC who is on a relevant leadership team (see the Motivate Workgroup meeting summaries).

The Volunteer form draft was reviewed; Eda will collate the comments and the document will be shared with the Motivate Workgroup.

The next meeting is planned to be face-to-face; Jo will poll for a specific time and arrange a room in Salem, probably at Chemeketa Community College.

Respectfully submitted, Jo Oshiro 5/25/07

NOISE (Network of Informal STEM Educators) :

Update for 4/20/07: The NOISE webpage at OMSI is in service at [http:// www.oms.edu/noise](http://www.oms.edu/noise).

Update for 4/24/07: The NOISE communications committee is in flux, but has asked that the TechnoScienceSuperSite and NOISE be linked to an OPAS webpage.

Prepare – Dick Knight and Sean Gallagher:

The most recent meeting of the Prepare Workgroup was May 15, 2007 and hosted Tim Brower of OIT and Ellen Lyon of Glencoe High School, Hillsboro School District, to talk about Project Lead The Way (PLTW).

PLTW is a national curriculum administered by a non-profit organization. It is based in part on nationally developed standards – National Science Education Standards, Standards for Technological Literacy (ITEA), Standards for the English Language Arts, National Content Standards for Engineering and Engineering Technology, Principles and Standards of School Mathematics. The coursework is activity, project, and problem-based with an emphasis on teamwork. There are end-of-course exams which are nationally normed. The curriculum has three foundation courses, Introduction to Engineering Design (9th grade), Principles of Engineering (10th grade) and Digital Electronics (11th grade), and four specialization courses, Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM), Civil Engineering and Architecture, Biotechnical Engineering, and Aerospace Technology. Of the specialization courses, only CIM is currently offered in Oregon. The 12th grade course is Engineering Design and Development, which incorporates a capstone project. Courses are designed to be 1 hour a day for 36 weeks.

OPAS Initiative 2007: Motivate Workgroup Meeting #4 – June 7, 2007

2

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The workgroup found two areas of concern with PLTW: they are not currently meeting goals for recruiting girls to the program, and the curriculum does not appear to include computer science, although there is a strong component of sophisticated application usage.

Workgroup members Dick Knight and Walt Mayberry are going to develop the information received yesterday into a proposal to the rest of the workgroup that could lead to the adoption of PLTW in 100 high schools in Oregon, and outline ways in which the workgroup could be instrumental in achieving that goal. Some methods discussed are letters of endorsement, helping develop a business plan and identify potential corporate and foundation partners, and providing input and feedback on documents such as a statement that Ellen Lyon volunteered to write on the benefits to high school principals and superintendents on what problems the adoption of PLTW will solve for them, over and above the curriculum being good for students.

The workgroup and staff will continue to pursue talking to universities about what constitutes academic preparedness for engineering programs and how well current students are meeting those criteria, and the optimal methods for closing any gaps. The workgroup also intends to resume discussions with Larry Flick about how OPAS can help work with him on injecting more rigor into CTE construction engineering classes.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 19, 2007 3:30 – 5:00.

Respectfully submitted, Jo Oshiro, 5/16/07

Pathways – Tom Thompson:

Susan Boyanovsky will be resigning as chair of Pathways when the statewide articulation agreement on Manufacturing Engineering Technology is done. Susan consulted with the committee about the language of that agreement, and the structure for reviewing that agreement annually, in early fall. Tom Thompson of ODE agreed to chair the workgroup.

The presentation of the Manufacturing Engineering Technology articulation agreement and pathway documentation at the Oregon Association of Career and Technical Educators' (OACTE) Conference in April went well. Susan was happy with the materials, the presentation, and the attendance of about 30. Attendees were interested in Project Lead the Way (PLTW) and statewide articulation; schools are trying to figure out how they can fit. One of the presenters' messages was that CTE has pathways to baccalaureate degrees.

Jo will discuss with the OUS Communications Department a press release or similar vehicle on the articulation agreement for distribution to the PTE Deans, regional coordinators, counselors,

OPAS Initiative 2007: Motivate Workgroup Meeting #4 – June 7, 2007

3

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Manufacturing 21, Mimi Maduro, Candace Robeck (webmistress), Lita Colligan, and the presidents of OCTM, OSTA, OMEC, OSEC, and others. *Part of this list was sent an email on May 18, after Jo and Endi Hartigan at OUS decided that a press release was not an adequately targeted tool. Jo will fix the oversights.*

Additional means of getting the message out were discussed, including a booth at the NW Youth Career Expo. *Because of lack of staffing for the booth, Jo made arrangements for the poster/brochures and a display board of the poster to share an OIT booth, staffed in part by Margi Smith Lee.*

A discussion of next steps resulted in Scott Giltz committing to do an informal poll to see if there is a likely next candidate degree for a statewide articulation program; the hunch of the workgroup is that it will be electrical engineering. *Bruce Schafer later suggested that Computer Science may also be a possibility. More poster/brochures are needed.*

The document “Satellite View Career Pathways Flyover for High School Students” is worth pursuing as a longer term project, aimed primarily at teachers, secondarily at counselors. The suggestion was made to target schools with PLTW and work with them to figure out how to optimally package the information.

The next meeting is tentatively planned for July.

Respectfully submitted, Jo Oshiro, 6/4/07

Marketing and Communications (Di Saunders):

Potential Marketing Help, as developed by the now sunsetted OPAS Marketing Committee July 24, 2006.

Volunteers and OUS Staff may contribute to the OPAS Initiative work in the following ways:

1. Outreach to Dept. of Education on curriculum changes (involves development of fact sheets; 2-pagers; sample curriculum; presentation materials).
2. Outreach to legislature to support building of pipeline; OPAS funding with ETIC budget; and curricular inclusions.
3. Dissemination of information on resources for students and teachers (eg, BEC Techno Supersite, grant/program opportunities, professional development opportunities).
4. Student-based materials on “what is engineering”, how to prepare, educational opportunities, how engineering is entry point to other careers such as marketing, logistics management, etc; use of creative design to attract teen readers (website or hard copy, tee shirts, etc.).
5. Materials for specific populations, such as under-served students, under-represented students (e.g, “For Girls Only” brochure on engineering).
6. Compilation and use of data to support various efforts to answer commonly asked questions and concerns.
7. Outreach to business groups and foundations to gain support and endorsement.

OPAS Initiative 2007: Motivate Workgroup Meeting #4 – June 7, 2007

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8. Public outreach on “what’s in it for me” to have more trained engineers in the state.

Respectfully submitted, Jo Oshiro, 1/30/07

Steering Committee (OPASS) - Bruce Schafer

The most recent meeting was May 16, 2007.

On the legislative front, forecasted tax revenue projections are up \$152 million, much of which is slated for higher education but will at least several more weeks before we know the final allocation. The detailed disposition of the ETIC allocation will be no sooner than the July 20th meeting. Jeff Triplett reported that the community colleges’ allocation appears to be slightly above the Governor’s budget, but still significantly below their original ask.

The workgroups’ feedback on the two funding exercises will be collated and distributed. In the meantime, some of the input could be summarized as follows:

Exercise 1, “What would we do with \$1 Million of External Funding” elicited a variety of suggestions for enhancing existing programs, using existing models, and leveraging additional funds. Many of these focused directly on teachers.

Exercise 2, Criteria for an OPAS RFP: Include the reach of the project, demonstrated impact or effectiveness, and a plan or model for financial sustainability, be focused, and project goals should mesh with the workgroups’ strategies.

The group’s discussion of other aspects of external funding touched on

- concerns about not thinking big enough, recognizing scalability;
- properly addressing NSF Broader Impact and Outreach (also known as EPO, Education and Public Outreach) requirements; and
- the OPAS Initiative’s ability to offer things other than money, notably help developing business plans, asks, and strategic management to the appropriate scale. Possible sources of external funding, which will take different strategies to tap, include foundations such as Murdoch and Ford Family, Congressional ear-marks, Perkins funds, and NSF.

Respectfully submitted, Jo Oshiro 5/18/07 updated 5/24/07

OPAS Initiative 2007: Motivate Workgroup Meeting #4 – June 7, 2007

5

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