MEMORANDUM

To: ASC Members
From: Matt Petry
Date: February 13, 2015
Subject: Notes from October 16, 2014 ASC Teleconference

Members present via teleconference: Matt Petry, Larry Buchholtz, Lynnde Colling, Cheryl Heather, Carol Hoglund, Sheldon Flom, Ron Granger, Marty Kelsey and Ron Laher. There was no Executive Council representation.

Agenda Item 1: Ad-Hoc Report Requests for Department of Workforce Services, Research and Planning Division

- Matt indicated that the base memorandum-of-understanding (MOU) in support of ad-hoc report requests for the Research and Planning Division (R&P) had been executed by all parties, and that the draft report request form would be discussed in a meeting with R&P.

Agenda Item 2: Update on State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) Development

- Matt stated that because any data warehouse solution would have to eventually integrate with the SLDS, some alternatives previously considered might no longer be viable. Consideration of the remaining alternatives, to be funded with the roughly $800,000 in carryover funding from the preceding biennium, continued.

Agenda Item 3: Salary Increase Funding

- Matt informed the ASC members that the Budget Division had yet to release the salary increase appropriations, but that he expected it to do so very soon, and that the Commission would make the college distributions immediately. He reminded the members that only half of the appropriation would be distributed at this time, with the remainder being distributed in July 2015.

Agenda Item 4: Calendar-Year 2015 Health Insurance Premiums

- Matt notified the ASC members that Larry’s preliminary review of the colleges’ appropriation indicated that supplemental funding would be needed to cover the January 2015 premium increase. The Budget Division had been informed of this.

Agenda Item 5: Mid-Biennium Capital Construction Requests

- Larry reiterated the contents of an e-mail he had sent the day before on actions by the State Building Commission (SBC). All six of the projects seeking authorization were approved, and Level II design funding was approved for the following projects, and in the following amounts:
  - Casper College Visual Arts Facility - $300,000
  - Central Wyoming College Jackson Outreach Center - $240,000
  - Northern Wyoming Community College District Tech Center - $270,000
Agenda Item 6: State Aid

- Matt indicated that the primary focus of changes to state aid would be recalibration of the base period to achieve stable funding. Secondary to this would be further development of performance-based funding, including not only a transition from course completion to weighted credit completion, but also consideration of other metrics, such as achievement of milestones (e.g., 12, 24, 36, 48 and 60 credit hours).

Agenda Item 7: Reconsideration of College-Specific, Instead of System-Wide, Appropriations

- Matt asked the ASC members if they wanted to reconsider college-specific, rather than system-wide, appropriations for health insurance premiums and/or increased retirement contributions. After explaining the advantages and disadvantages of both approaches, the majority voted to keep system-wide appropriations.

Agenda Item 8: Academic-Year 2016 Tuition Rates

- Matt solicited the group’s thoughts on tuition rates for the upcoming academic year, including the proposal for no increase. Most were in favor of a 5 percent increase, similar to previous years.

Agenda Item 9: College Forms and Reports Matrix

- Larry thanked the ASC members for submission of many of their forms and reports, and then reminded them of the deadlines for the Biennial Funding Report (i.e., Form 201), the Annual Report on Excellence in Higher Education Endowment Funds and State Higher Education Finance (SHEF) reporting.

Next ASC Meeting / Teleconference

- November 20 Teleconference, 2:30 to 4:00