

NEW MEXICO HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

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GOVERNOR



STEPHANIE RODRIGUEZ
CABINET SECRETARY

Data Advisory Group

Minutes

10 – 11:30 a.m.

April 5, 2021

1. Present:

Co-Chair: Mark Chisholm, New Mexico Higher Education Department
Co-Chair: Dina Advani, New Mexico Higher Education Department
Carmella Sanchez, Northern New Mexico College
Dawn Kenney, Central New Mexico Community College
Heather Mechler, University of New Mexico
Kathy Ulibarri, New Mexico Independent Community Colleges
Mary Beth Worley, Doña Ana Community College
Ricardo Rel, New Mexico State University
Todd DeKay, Eastern New Mexico University – Roswell
Anita Gavin, Institute for American Indian Arts
Stephanie Rodriguez- Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Higher Education Department
Patricia Trujillo – Deputy Secretary, New Mexico Higher Education Department
Stephanie Montoya, New Mexico Higher Education Department, Public Information Officer

2. Approval of Minutes from 01-11-21 and 02-01-21 Meetings

Minutes were approved with the correction of the spelling of one attendee's name.

3. Creating an Active/Inactive Degree/Certificate Program Inventory

There was broad agreement this would be a good idea. Several suggestions were made:

- Update the list at least annually.
- Send out as a template, with indicators for “active”, “in-active”, and “on-hold” (some institutions may want to keep the option of re-starting a program if the demand for that program increases in the next couple of years).
- Add a column to indicate if a program is funding formula eligible or not and if the program falls into a STEMH or other Workforce category.
- The inventory would also benefit institutions, who often have to come up with a list for HLC.
- The inventory would also address the issue that was recently raised about the number of programs in NM compared to neighboring states.
- The inventory would also illustrate that institutions do, in fact, close non-productive programs.

It was agreed that the goal would be for the NMHED to complete the inventory by the end of this fiscal year.

4. Identifying five specific topic areas for data development that the NMHED should focus on between now and the beginning of the next legislative session?

Secretary Rodriguez pointed out the Department of Health *Data Book* and the Department of Workforce Solutions *Labor Market Review* as examples. There was broad agreement that higher education needs to “own” their data and to get out ahead of others as to the story our data is telling about higher education in New Mexico. There was also discussion of linking to the National Student Loan Clearinghouse and the UI file maintained by the Department of Workforce Solutions. The NMLDS will be a long-term answer, but we can still do a lot in the meantime.

There were several specific suggestions:

- Keep measures simple and clear
- Include some financial aid data, such as
 - How many students on the Lottery Scholarship?
 - How many on the Opportunity Scholarship?
 - How many students get Pell Grants?
- Consider adding some financial data, such as:
 - How much do we spend to educate a student
- Rather than institutional peers, consider looking for some state peers
 - Kentucky was raised as a possible peer state
- Peer comparisons don’t always work, perhaps better to compare colleges to themselves over time
- It was suggested that data needs to be presented at the institutional level, others felt that would just tend to pit institutions against each other and that sector summaries would be more useful
- And a request was made to consider adding some qualitative data to the mix, quantitative data doesn’t always tell a complete story, for example
 - Look at Colorado Rises, and its 20-year plan
 - Find students who drop out and tell their story
 - Tell stories about all the reasons students have for attending community colleges

A final list was not settled on by the end of the meeting, the next meeting will work on identifying five specific topics, possibly from the following list:

- ➔ *headcount, with a focus on demographic categories;*
- ➔ *FTE and/or credit hours (use the formula criteria of a grade being awarded?);*

- *degrees and certificates granted (total awards or awardees, as used in the funding formula);ransfer (can a version of momentum points be useful here)*
- *retention and graduation rates (possibly compared to peer grouping of like institutions, as determined from IPEDS data analyses);*
- *job placement of graduates and job retention and salaries over time;*
other ideas?

5. Next Meeting

May 3rd 2021 @ 10:00 AM