



Meeting Purpose

Alaska Postsecondary Access and Completion Network (APACN) planning team members reconvened to: 1) receive a report on the initial meeting of the network’s executive committee; 2) receive updates on committee work; 3) review program and policy inventory results; 4) deepen understanding of intervention target populations related to the network goal; and, 5) identify top Collaborative Assessment Tool-related tasks.

Key Meeting Outcomes

Executive Committee Activity	Key demographic issues to meeting "65 by 2025" Goal identified	Collaborative Assessment Tool Action Items Identified
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of Executive Committee Leadership: Saichi Oba as Chair and Joe Nelson as Chair-Elect • Key Decisions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to engage Planning Team acting as a steering committee for immediate future • Create bylaws subcommittee to continue work on draft bylaws • Set Top Priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bylaws • Strategic Plan • Budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dan Robinson, Department of Labor & Workforce Development, presented on Alaska demographics in context of Network goal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth-only focus cannot meet goal (a prior presentation showed most Alaska programs focus on this group) • College-age students and adults with a high school diploma as highest credential are the largest target populations (includes some college, no degree population) • Alaska men have lower rates of credential attainment than women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a "sense of urgency" was the top priority for network members • The March Conference is an opportunity to build urgency and stakeholder engagement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members agreed to conduct outreach to ensure broad-based conference attendance • Future priorities should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a marketing and communications plan • focus area committees to implement the Network strategic plan

Executive Committee Meeting and Action Item Update

Saichi Oba, newly-elected Network Executive Committee chair, summarized discussion and action items from the inaugural meeting of the APACN Executive Committee, held the morning of February 3.

Executive Committee Actions
Reframed the Network Planning Team as a “Steering Committee” that will continue to engage the broader group in its current form for the immediate future
Determined need for a Bylaws Subcommittee to revise and secure external review of the proposed network bylaws
Will seek Network Planning Team approval to extend executive committee terms to two-years terms; with initial automatic awarding of two-year terms to chair and chair-elect, as well as four other randomly selected Executive Committee members, to allow a transition to staggered terms
Nominated and elected Chair (Saichi Oba) and Chair-Elect (Joe Nelson)
Identified: 1) bylaws, 2) strategic plan, and 3) budget as Executive Committee top priorities for the immediate future.

Conference Sectional Subcommittee Update

The conference sectional subcommittee has continued to engage stakeholders with a recent presentation to ACPE’s membership. The Network’s activity was well-received and the Commission Chair moved to develop a formal endorsement of the Network, which was unanimously approved by members. UA Board of Regents representatives to the Commission expressed interest in learning more about the Network as well. An intended presentation to Best Beginnings was not completed due to schedule conflicts; however, additional presentations are on the schedule.

NEXT STEPS

- Additional presentations will be delivered to ASTE and the Coalition of Student Leaders
- The presentation will be shared with planning team members for broader use, to seek further leadership endorsements



Spring Summit Subcommittee Update

March 17-18 conference planning is ongoing. Relevant and diverse breakout session proposals are expected. Registrations are low to date but expected to increase over next weeks with upcoming deadlines, including the addition of a new early-bird registration incentive. General session panelists are confirmed, as are the two keynote presenters: Lee Gorsuch, Chancellor Emeritus, UAA; and Brandy Johnson, Executive Director, MCAN.

NEXT STEPS

- Network members will assist in promoting upcoming scholarship, proposal, and early bird registration deadlines
- An Executive Committee meeting, including a working breakfast with Brandy Johnson of MCAN, will be scheduled on March 17th (morning)

Programs & Policy Inventory Presentation

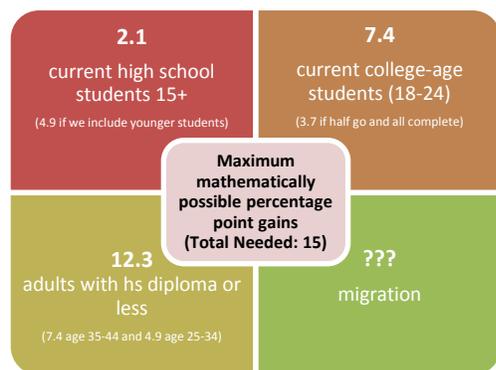
Scott Miller, senior consultant with the McDowell Group, LLC, presented the findings and recommendations from the forthcoming Alaska Postsecondary Access & Completion Program Inventory. The inventory summarizes survey results of 54 programs and a series of executive inventories, and provides recommendations for further action. Among many needs and challenges identified by administrators were the lack of postsecondary expectations in Alaska’s culture, difficulty building and sustaining partnerships, and struggles to develop meaningful measures of program impact. To address these challenges, the report provides recommendations around building a culture of postsecondary achievement, and expanding partnering and networking. The report further recommends clarifying program priorities to create a continuum of services, and assessing the adequacy of current access and completion programs in meeting older students’ and adults’ needs. Finally, the report supports the development of systems to collect more useful longitudinal data, and improve access to information regarding postsecondary options through enhanced statewide broadband.

NEXT STEPS

- ACPE will supervise release of the completed Programs & Policy Inventory by McDowell Group, LLC. to Network members later this month

Network Goal Presentation: Getting to 65 by 2025

Dan Robinson, Chief, Research & Analysis, Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce, provided an overview of current Alaska workforce trends and demographics relative to the Network primary goal of having 65 percent of



working-age Alaskans holding a postsecondary degree or certificate by 2025. The data highlighted that working with high school students, while critical, can lead to only small gains statewide. The group with most room for growth is adults, followed by current college-age students. Mr. Robinson pointed out that there are significant numbers of individuals with some college but no credential – a potentially fruitful intervention opportunity. Mr. Robinson also noted that Alaska men complete postsecondary education at lower rates than women. Male-focused strategies could boost attainment rates.

Collaborative Assessment Tool Action Items

In advance of the meeting, Lacy Karpilo, Collaborative Assessment Tool subcommittee lead, solicited feedback and action items related to the Tool results. This process clearly identified creating a "sense of urgency" as the top priority. Two additional focus areas were the development of a coordinated and aligned work plan and stakeholder identification. The group identified several action items that will inform development of a marketing and communications plan, and the creation of committees to implement the network strategic plan. The group determined stakeholder identification has occurred, but actual engagement is needed, agreeing that the March conference presents an opportunity to engage or re-engage important stakeholders previously identified.

NEXT STEPS

- All Executive Committee members will participate in additional outreach to promote attendance by a broad constituent group at the conference