Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education

Finding the Right Port in a Storm:
Strengthening the Connection between Higher Education and State Workforce Development Goals

June 25-26, 2007

Denver: Westin Tabor Conference Center
Robert T. Tad Perry
Executive Director
South Dakota Board of Regents
www.sdbor.edu
Pierre, South Dakota, USA
1995 – Roundtables

1996 – Reinvestment Through Efficiencies System Goals

1997 – Higher Education Funding Framework Policy Goals

2001 – Board Began Opportunities Report

2002 – Mike Rounds Elected Governor

Town Meetings
Timeline

2004 – Governor’s 2010 Economic Development Initiative

2005 – Governor’s 2010 Education Initiative

2006 – Education to Workforce Summit
• WICHE Workforce Project
• Healthcare Workforce Summit
• Opportunities Report

2007 – P-21 Council
• Research Summit
• Workforce Development sub-cabinet
1995

Roundtables

- Policymakers
- Regents
- Business
- Institutional
1996

Reinvestment Through Efficiencies - System Goals

- Technology Infrastructure
- Redesign of Curriculum
- Protecting Assets
- Economic Development
- Linkages to K-12 Education
- Invest in Change
- Centers of Excellence
1997

Higher Education Funding Framework - Policy Goals

- Access
- Increase Enrollment in Programs Important for Economic Growth
- Academic Improvement
- Human Resources
- Faculty Professional Development
- Collaboration
- Current Technology Infrastructure
- Current Facilities and Equipment
- External Funds
2001

Board of Regents advanced discussions of the Opportunities Report

- Met with business leaders
- Met with community leaders
- Met with institutional constituencies
Town Meetings

- Legislative districts
- Hosted by local legislators
- Special invitation to community leaders
- Special invitation to business leaders
- Special invitation to local education leaders
2002

Mike Rounds elected Governor
Policy Goals for the Unified System of Public Higher Education

- **Access**: Every qualified South Dakotan shall have access to public postsecondary education.
- **Academic Quality and Performance**: South Dakota public universities and special schools shall provide a quality educational experience.
- **State Wealth**: South Dakota’s public universities shall engage in activities designed to enhance the state’s long-term economy.
- **Efficiency**: South Dakota public universities and special schools shall continue to seek means for improving efficiency in the delivery of educational services.
2003

Board of Regents Report: *Opportunities for South Dakota* (opportunities related to workforce development)

- Connecting education policy – leadership discussions of policy
- High school preparation and postsecondary enrollment
- Rapid City and Black Hills Area
- Greater Sioux Falls Area
- Off-Campus Instructional Services
- System Research Infrastructure for the New Economy
Governor’s 2010 Economic Development Initiative

http://www.2010initiative.com

- **GOAL THREE:** Become a Recognized Leader in Research and Technology Development by 2010

- **GOAL FOUR:** Brand and Develop South Dakota’s Quality of Life as the Best in America by 2010
Governor’s 2010 Education Initiative

http://www.2010education.com

Goal 2: By 2010, South Dakota will be first in the nation for the percentage of students going on to college, technical school or advanced training.

Goal 3: By 2010, the postsecondary education system will fully meet the needs of the state's changing economy and its citizens.

- University – Technical Institute Articulation Agreements
- 10% increase in university associate degree graduates
- 20% increase in graduates of bachelor’s programs
- Double number of persons 25 and older in postsecondary education
- Improve university student retention rates
Governor’s 2010 Education Initiative – Continued

http://www.2010education.com

- Support postsecondary education programs designed to enhance the state's long-term economy.
  - Double number of Ph.D. programs
  - Double number of Ph.D. graduates
  - Enhance Ph.D. program support infrastructure
  - Achieve national average of persons with graduate degrees

- Double the number of students receiving South Dakota Opportunity Scholarships.
Governor’s Education to Workforce Summit
WICHE Education to Workforce Project (funded by Ford Foundation)

- Reviewed Information & Conducted Interviews
- Suggestions: Spread the good word, organize for success, audit existing policies, enhance coordination, build based on evidence, continue data use, evaluate progress

Healthcare Workforce Summit
Board’s Opportunities Plan – Report to Legislature

- Ties higher education goals to 2010 Education initiative
2007

P-21 council formation

Research summit

Workforce development sub-cabinet

- Department of Education
- Department of Labor
- Department of Tourism and State Development
- Board of Regents
Major Accomplishments

- High school graduation requirements revised

- Competitiveness for Talent
  - SD Opportunity Scholarship – to retain the best student
  - Tuition for non-residents reduced – attract students from other states

- Expand Access for Non-Traditional Students
  - Additional degree programs approved for off-campus delivery
  - Off-campus facility plans – Sioux Falls, Pierre, Rapid City
  - System coordination of distance delivery of courses
Major Accomplishments (continued)

- **University/Technical Institute Articulation**
  - Universities now responsible for general education courses
  - Program-to-Program articulation agreements

- **New Degree Programs**

- **Investments in Knowledge and Innovation**
  - New Ph.D. Programs – funds from State & Universities
  - 2010 Research Centers – grants from State to universities
  - Research and Commercialization Council
Lessons Learned

- Sustainability Through Institutionalization
- Stability of Personnel and Focus
- NOT Higher Education’s Agenda