What’s Up At WICHE?

Broadening Access, Building a Western Workforce, and Collaborative Initiatives

Jere J. Mock

WICHE Legislative Advisory Meeting
Tuesday, September 29, 2009
Regional Student Exchange

**WICHE** was created in 1953 as a result of gubernatorial concern and action to expand access to professional education via the Western Regional Compact for Education.
WICHE’s Student Access Programs

- Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)
- Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP)
- Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP)
- WICHE’s Internet Course Exchange (ICE)
Our Student Exchange Programs...

Help states to **share** higher education resources, **reduce** the unnecessary duplication of programs, and develop an educated workforce.

Provide students with **tuition savings** across a range of institutions and professional, graduate, and undergraduate programs.

Enable institutions to **increase enrollments** when there is available capacity and /or avoid or **postpone creating new programs**; and **partner to create and offer new programs** that are relevant to society and the economy.
Western Undergraduate Exchange

- 140+ institutions
- ~23,632 students @ 150% resident tuition
- $151 M in tuition savings in AY 2008
- Decentralized—applicants apply directly
- **No money exchanged** between states
- WUE institutions agree to accept reduced rate

- Fill excess enrollment
- Diversify student body
- Build local workforce
WUE Enrollment History 1988 - 2008

- 1988: 646
- 1990: 3,931
- 1995: 6,953
- 2000: 14,099
- 2005: 20,191
- 2006: 21,578
- 2007: 22,094
- 2008: 23,632
### WUE In Bound/Out Bound Enrollment, AY 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>In Bound Students</th>
<th>Out Bound Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>1,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>3,292</td>
<td>865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>5,082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>1,562</td>
<td>2,491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>1,998</td>
<td>1,442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>2,550</td>
<td>1,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>1,637</td>
<td>1,168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>2,737</td>
<td>944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>1,437</td>
<td>357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>1,939</td>
<td>1,506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>1,289</td>
<td>695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>818</td>
<td>3,656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>2,146</td>
<td>1,153</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Most popular WUE destinations, 2008

- U Nevada, Reno: 1,176
- U Nevada, Las Vegas: 1,226
- U Idaho: 1,457
- U Hawaii Manoa: 1,640
- Northern Arizona U: 2,063
## Distinctive WUE Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Associate’s or Certificate</th>
<th>Bachelor’s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Aviation maintenance</td>
<td>• Forensic science technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Equine studies</td>
<td>• Healthcare management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fire science</td>
<td>• Music industry &amp; technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fisheries</td>
<td>• Nutrition &amp; food science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Motion picture television production/editing</td>
<td>• Korean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nuclear power technology</td>
<td>• Gaming management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Travel industry management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WUE Requirements

**Vary by institution**, even within a given state
- Some institutions automatically give WUE rate

- Others have **specific requirements**:
  - Incoming freshmen only, no transfers
  - Minimum high school GPA (overall or in “core”)
  - Minimum SAT or ACT score (most)
  - Recommendations or essays
  - FAFSA (to demonstrate financial need) (U of O)
  - Restricted eligible majors only (U of A)
WUE: Challenges & Opportunities

WICHE’s largest access program

- TIGHTENING ECONOMY:
  - Will institutions REDUCE or INCREASE their number of WUE seats?
  - Will they reduce their menu of eligible programs?
- Low-growth states encouraged to INCREASE participation (MT, ND, NM, SD, WY)
- Attract CA institutions: both 4-year and 2-year
Western Regional Graduate Program

- **226 programs** at 40+ institutions
- **52 healthcare programs**: nursing, public health, mental health, and more.
- Grad students pay **resident tuition**
- Students **apply directly** to enrolling department
- **No money exchanged** across states

- Fill excess capacity
- Keep distinctive programs robust & viable
- Avoid duplication of unique programs
- Diversify enrollment
Professional Student Exchange Program

- WICHE’s raison d’être from the 1950’s
- Expands access in **10 healthcare fields**
- \(~\$14.1\) million state investment (12 states)
- **715 students** in AY 2009

### Top three fields:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary Medicine</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentistry</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optometry</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PSEP (continued)

- Fields of study not available at public institutions in their home states
- Student’s home state pays a support fee to the admitting schools
- Students pay reduced tuition

State determines which fields it will support, and the number of seats funded
PSEP Exchange History, 1960 - 2009
## PSEP support fees & supporting states

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIELD</th>
<th>2009-10 Fee</th>
<th>Sending States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dentistry</td>
<td>$22,000</td>
<td>AK, AZ, HI, MT, NM, ND, WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>28,300</td>
<td>MT, WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occup. Therapy</td>
<td>11,500</td>
<td>AK, AZ, HI, MT, WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optometry</td>
<td>15,100</td>
<td>AK, CO, AZ, HI, ID, MT, NV, ND, UT, WA, WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osteopathic Med.</td>
<td>18,800</td>
<td>AZ, MT, WA, WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>6,700</td>
<td>AK, HI, NV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phys. Therapy</td>
<td>10,300</td>
<td>AK, HI, WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician Asst.</td>
<td>11,300</td>
<td>AK, AZ, NV, WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatry</td>
<td>13,100</td>
<td>AK, MT, UT, WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary Med.</td>
<td>28,100</td>
<td>AZ, HI, MT, NV, NM, ND, UT, WY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How Support Fees Work

**All fields (except pharmacy):**

- Students pay resident tuition at public institutions; tuition differential should be covered.
- Support fee credited at private institutions; student assumes balance.

**Pharmacy (lower support):**

- Support fee credited at both public and private institutions; student assumes balance.
Philosophical dilemma: Is PSEP primarily for **ACCESS** or **WORKFORCE**?

- Recipients of other state-funded graduate and professional programs are not required to stay and serve.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>59%</strong></td>
<td>All WICHE states, *HI &amp; ND not included</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>39%</strong></td>
<td>Honor system states, AK, ID, MT, UT, WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>75%</strong></td>
<td>Service payback states, AZ, CO, NV, NM, WA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Use of Student Exchange, 2008

- **AK**: 1,680 (WUE), 22 (WRGP), 75 (PSEP)
- **AZ**: 865 (WUE), 32 (WRGP), 199 (PSEP)
- **CA**: 5,082 (WUE), 26 (WRGP), 47 (PSEP)
- **CO**: 2,491 (WUE), 83 (WRGP), 36 (PSEP)
- **HI**: 1,442 (WUE), 10 (WRGP), 75 (PSEP)
- **ID**: 1,130 (WUE), 8 (WRGP), 44 (PSEP)
- **MT**: 1,168 (WUE), 36 (WRGP), 83 (PSEP)
- **NV**: 944 (WUE), 22 (WRGP), 44 (PSEP)
- **NM**: 668 (WUE), 16 (WRGP), 88 (PSEP)
- **ND**: 357 (WUE), 24 (WRGP), 33 (PSEP)
- **OR**: 1,506 (WUE), 9 (WRGP), 33 (PSEP)
- **SD**: 695 (WUE), 0 (WRGP), 37 (PSEP)
- **UT**: 795 (WUE), 6 (WRGP), 33 (PSEP)
- **WA**: 3,656 (WUE), 79 (WRGP), 13 (PSEP)
- **WY**: 1,153 (WUE), 23 (WRGP), 133 (PSEP)
A Closer Look at Healthcare Workforce Needs in the West...
WICHE Internet Course Exchange
Mission of WICHE ICE

WICHE ICE creates opportunities for students to **seamlessly access** through their **home institution high quality internet-delivered courses and programs** offered by accredited four-year and two-year institutions throughout the WICHE region and beyond.
WICHE ICE member institutions

- Adams State College (CO)
- Arizona Universities Network
- Bismarck State College
- Boise State University
- Eastern Washington University
- Idaho State University
- Lewis-Clark State College
- Montana State University Bozeman
- Montana University System
- North Dakota University System Online
- Regis University (CO)
- South Dakota System of Higher Education
- University of Alaska Anchorage
- University of Alaska Fairbanks
- University of Colorado Denver
- University of Nevada Reno
- University of Wyoming
How WICHE ICE Works

Teaches an online or distance education course

Offeres extra “seats” through WICHE ICE

Charges a common price $150/credit – undergrad
$200/credit - graduate

Establishes academic policies for all students
How WICHE ICE Works

**Reserves seats through WICHE ICE**

**Creates a shadow course in catalog; sets up registration system**

**Enrolling Institution**

**Registers students, collects tuition/fees, records grades and maintains transcripts**

**Determines the retail price it will charge students**
Benefits for students

- Convenience and flexibility of online delivery;
- Access to wider range of courses and programs and faculty expertise;
- Seamless access to financial aid, advising, and credit transfer at home institution;
- Overcome geographical, financial and scheduling barriers to course enrollment; and,
- Improved degree completion and retention.
Benefits for higher education institutions

- Expand course and program offerings
- Expedite students’ time to degree
- Achieve cost efficiencies
- Share faculty in hard to staff disciplines
- Keep low growth programs viable
- Review requirements before students take courses from member institutions
- Facilitate academic planning
Benefits for states and impact on workforce development

Respond to more quickly to workforce demands, especially those that arise quickly

Address regional workforce issues through collaborative approaches
Current collaborative efforts

- Rural and Frontier Clinical Social Work Certificate
- U.S. & Colorado Depts. of Labor: Health, IT, & Energy
- Math & Science Courses for Secondary Teachers
- Engineering Courses
WICHE ICE membership

- Institutional membership fees from $2,000-$4,000 per year, depending on student enrollment
- Each institution appoints a Steering Board member and Program Information Coordinator
- Support is provided for ICE implementation at institutions
- Members set future direction of ICE
http://www.wiche.edu/SEP

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