

CWI Workforce Strategies Committee
GROUPING AND “SEQUENCING” OF COMMITTEE TASKS
(draft – for discussion at meeting of July 20, 2005)

Note: Each bullet-item is a task either performed by the committee or one of its predecessors or identified by one of the recent task groups.

(Parenthetical references in italics are to the committee-identified strategy to which the task relates.)

[Items in brackets are possible/hypothetical next steps/projects inserted for discussion purposes.]

1. Workforce information resources, gathering, and analysis

Work to date:

- Canvassed WDBs on status of regional skill gaps under way (w/ limited response).
(A.1: skill gap analysis)
- Produced some preliminary/impressionistic information (via email surveys to WDBs) on skill gaps. *(A.1: skill gap analysis)*
- Discussed possible use of JobNet as a way to collect skill needs/gap data.
(A.2: identify additional data needs)
- Viewed a demo of several key informational tools: WORKNet, WisCareers, Skillbase Projections. *(A.2: identify additional data needs and A.3: develop new data mechanisms)*

Immediate next steps:

- Demo of “Strategic Advantage” economic modeling program.
(A.3: develop new data mechanisms)

Longer-term projects:

- Develop a set of recommendations re: data resources. *(A.2: identify additional data needs and A.3: develop new data mechanisms)*

2. Workforce preparation

Work to date:

- Contacted WI Congressional delegation in support of Perkins, Youth Apprenticeship Health Services and other federally-funded vocational education programs; received update on legislative process. *(B.3: transparent and capable career devt system)*
- Received overview of results of student and employer surveys on Youth Apprenticeship program. *(B.3: transparent and capable career devt system)*
- Reviewed key WTCS publications: *Advanced Manufacturing Solutions* and *Special Assessment* (both dealing with employer needs for tech college system).
(B.2: flexible and responsive work prep system and A.1: skill gap analysis)
- Received update on Committee on Baccalaureate Expansion (COBE) implementation.
(B.4: accessible and articulated postsec system)

- Received overview of current efforts to develop open-entry/exit and other flexibility into tech education. *(B.2: flexible and responsive work prep system)*

Immediate next steps:

- Receive more detailed overview of Youth Apprenticeship program. *(B.3 transparent and capable career devt system)*
- Receive report on trends, usage, and options for distance learning at various levels of K-12 education. *(B.1 max use of distance learning)*
- Receive report on scan of innovative career development systems. *(B.3 transparent and capable career devt system)*

Longer term projects:

- Explore idea of a Career Education “Summit” to re-energize the state’s commitment to career education. *(B.3 transparent and capable career devt system)*

3. Regional priorities – existing industries and incumbent worker training

Work to date:

- Collected information on public-sector incumbent worker training programs. *(C.1: workforce education)*
- Identified private-sector-led incumbent worker training initiatives as a primary interest. *(C.2: industry-driven training models)*
- Identified internet-based strategies as one possible tool to coordinate and maximize incumbent/customized training resources. *(both C.1 and C.2)*
- Noted some models, such as workplace learning centers, as potentially worth exploring. *(C.2: industry-driven training models)*

Immediate next steps:

- Get more information about workplace learning centers. *(C.2: industry-driven training models)*
- Get more information about on the WMC “audit” of training programs and its bearing on incumbent worker training. *(C.2: industry-driven training models)*
- [Compile final report, based on work to date, on status of public-sector incumbent worker training in Wisconsin. *(C.1: workforce education)*]

Longer-term projects:

- [Research promising incumbent worker programs/practices in other states. *(both C.1 and C.2)*]
- [Planning document on strategic priorities in incumbent worker training. *(both C.1 and C.2)*]

4. Regional priorities -- network/partnership models *(except as noted, all below relate to C.3: regional high-growth partnerships)*

Work to date:

- Identified resources for exploring alternative concepts of region.

- Review presentations on clusters.
- Raised the issue of regional composition re: GROW grants.
- Initiated the GROW grant program under CWI auspices.
- Identified attraction and retention of skilled workers as a priority strategic objective.
(A.4: attract/retain skilled workers)

Immediate next steps:

- Define WSC role in GROW grant program.
- [identify regional “brain drain/brain gain”-related projects in Wisconsin. (A.4: attract/retain skilled workers)]
- [Learn more about regional partnership efforts in other states.]

Longer term projects:

- [Build info gathered from GROW grant process into recommendations for state regional partnership strategy.]