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MINUTES

STATE BOARD FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (SBCTE) MEETING

APRIL 17, 2025

A video recording of this meeting may be viewed at the Board of Regents website as follows:

[Meeting Video](#)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 2:48 p.m. on Thursday, April 17, 2025, at Kapi'olani Community College, Kopiko 126-128, 4303 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96816, with regents participating from various locations.

Quorum (10): Chair Gabriel Lee; Vice-Chairs Laurie Tochiki and Laurel Loo; and Regents Neil Abercrombie, Lauren Akitake, William Haning, Wayne Higaki, Michael Miyahira, Diane Paloma, and Ernest Wilson.

Members Excused(1): Regent Joshua Faumuina

Others in attendance: President Wendy Hensel; Vice President (VP) for Academic Strategy Debora Halbert; VP for Legal Affairs/UH General Counsel Carrie Okinaga; VP for Information Technology/Chief Information Officer Garret Yoshimi; Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board of Regents (Board Secretary) Yvonne Lau; and others as noted.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 16, 2025, MEETING

Chair Lee inquired if there were any corrections to the minutes of the January 16, 2025, SBCTE meeting which had been distributed. Hearing none, the minutes were approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Board Secretary Lau announced that the Board Office did not receive written testimony and no individuals signed up to provide oral testimony.

IV. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Review and Approval of the Hawaii State Career and Technical Education (CTE) State Plan (New Perkins V State Plan)

Stephen Schatz, Executive Director of Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education (Hawai'i P-20) and State Director for CTE, explained that, while Hawai'i's receipt of CTE grant monies via the federal Perkins V Act requires the development of a State level

plan, as well as SBCTE's approval of this plan prior to its submittal to the United States Department of Education (USDOE), there was no obligation for the plan to be revised by a certain timeline. However, leadership within the Hawai'i P-20/State CTE Office, Hawai'i State Department of Education (HiDOE), and University of Hawai'i (UH) determined it was time for the Hawai'i Perkins Plan to be revised and improved and recently embarked on a collaborative journey, along with other parties within the ecosystem of workforce development and education in Hawai'i, to do so. Executive Director Schatz then proceeded to share information on the membership of the team leading these efforts; noted the improved alignment between the New Perkins V State Plan, the UH System Strategic Plan, the HiDOE Strategic and Implementation Plan, and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Unified State Plan in terms of workforce development objectives, strategies, and metrics; briefly discussed the New Perkins V State Plan's framework; and spoke about two major changes contained within the New Perkins V State Plan, including a requirement for individual high schools and community colleges to complete a local needs assessment aligned with regional labor market needs using data resources and the holding of up to 15 percent of basic grant funds in reserve for alternative distribution to HiDOE and UH's Community College System (UHCC), part of which will include a competitive award process.

Regent Wilson asked if there was any word as to what was happening with Perkins V funding at the federal level. Executive Director Schatz replied that there was no indication of problems or issues with respect to Perkins V funding at this time.

Regent Abercrombie reiterated concerns he raised about the conditions of facilities used by the Hawai'i P-20/State CTE Office during the January 16, 2025, SBCTE meeting, expressed his belief in the negative impacts this could have on the entity's CTE efforts, and once again proposed future discussions be held on this matter.

Regent Tochiki requested Executive Director Schatz speak a little about what she considered to be amazing education-to-career pathway maps put together by the Hawai'i P-20/State CTE Office. Executive Director Schatz stated the education-to-career pathway maps are intended to be used as tools to better inform counselors, advisors, parents, and students of the many educational opportunities available in Hawai'i with a focus on the UH System. These maps are highly interactive and enable individuals to see a career path from high school through the community colleges or four-year institutions and into jobs in the workforce. A number of pathway maps, such as those related to the education, information technology, health services, and skilled trades sectors, have already been completed, and the expectation is for work on all of the remaining maps slated for development to be finished by the end of this calendar year. Executive Director Schatz lauded Warren Kawano, Career Pathways Strategy Director for Hawai'i P-20, along with other individuals in the Hawai'i P-20/State CTE Office, for their work on developing the pathway maps and facilitating discussions between HiDOE, UHCC, CTE teachers and deans, the university, and other CTE constituencies on this project.

Regent Paloma arrived at 2:55 p.m.

Noting the importance of meeting performance outcomes, Regent Tochiki asked if there were measures in place to determine whether or not the New Perkins V State Plan is meeting its goals and objectives. Executive Director Schatz responded that, while the Hawai'i P-20/State CTE Office is the entity responsible for tracking student achievement metrics, it functions more as a CTE facilitation and coordination agency and does not actively manage CTE related activities at every single school or on every single campus, but focuses on setting up the resources, infrastructure, leadership, and direction to things happen. However, the Hawai'i P-20/State CTE Office does monitor the situation and has a process for conducting performance reviews on about 20 percent of CTE campuses every two years to assess compliance with Perkins Plan requirements. He also stressed the need for this matter, including the development of CTE goals, objectives, and performance metrics associated with quantifiable data, to be thought of more in terms of it being a collective responsibility of all CTE entities and constituencies. On a personal note, Executive Director Schatz stated there are projects he wants to accomplish and holds himself accountable for getting them done.

Regent Akitake inquired about the number of CTE staff Hawai'i P-20 has, the agency's location, and the amount of times it presents a report to SBCTE. Executive Director Schatz replied the Hawai'i P-20/State CTE Office consists of six individuals, is located on the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa campus near Bachman Hall, and, in general, presents quarterly reports to SBCTE, although this has not always been the case over the past several years due to a variety of reasons.

Given the above response and comments made earlier by Regent Abercrombie about the condition of the facility housing the Hawai'i P-20/State CTE Office, Regent Akitake stated she would be interested in having regents visit the Hawai'i P-20/State CTE Office believing such a visit would afford board members with the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the agency's work and allow regents to view first hand, the state of its building.

Regent Miyahira voiced his concern about the continuation of funding for the Hawai'i P-20/State CTE Office and its efforts given what is occurring at the federal level with respect to the current administration and the USDOE. Although the Hawai'i P-20/State CTE Office does not know what will happen with federal funding for CTE programs and agencies, Executive Director Schatz stated Perkins V encompasses a federal program whose expenditures are authorized by the United States Congress.

Regent Wilson engaged with Executive Director Schatz in a brief conversation about the various sources and types of funding available for workforce development initiatives, including through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, and the increase in collaboration among the various CTE constituencies throughout the State.

Regent Tochiki asked how the New Perkins V State Plan will address the constantly changing workforce need requirements in terms of CTE, especially given the rapid pace of technological development and subsequent growth in new industries. Executive Director Schatz replied that workforce data is generally geared towards looking at past and current needs in employment areas where there is some certainty to the continued existence of jobs in those fields. With respect to increased economic development and

the ability to determine workforce needs for emerging employment sectors, the Hawai'i P-20/State CTE Office has been improving its communications and working more closely with the State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism on this front. Additionally, high school and community college campuses engaged in CTE often think about their work in terms of meeting regional needs and thus, have the ability to gain a more nuanced insight into more geographically specific workforce needs and emerging sectors from their respective advisory boards and CTE constituencies.

Regent Wilson moved to approve the New Perkins V State Plan, as requested, seconded by Regent Miyahira, and noting the excused absence of Regent Faumuina, the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

B. Review and Approval of the CTE Annual Report for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year

Executive Director Schatz presented the 2023-2024 CTE Annual Report explaining that the Annual Report is required to be submitted to the USDOE under the Perkins V Act, as well as to the Governor, under the Hawai'i Revised Statutes. He stated the Report, which contains information on, among other things, the management of federal CTE funds, must also be approved by the SBCTE board prior to its being submitted to the Governor. He then went on to discuss various Perkins V definitions used in the Annual Report; provided a snapshot of CTE funding given to the state as well as student participation and concentrator data; reviewed 2023-2024 Perkins V core indicators of performance for both the HiDOE and UHCC, highlighting percentage variances from the previous year's data, especially in relation to a decrease in academic proficiency with respect to mathematics; briefly spoke about the rationale for some of these differences; and emphasized the aforementioned Annual Report is based upon Hawai'i's current State Perkins V Plan and not the New Perkins V State Plan approved earlier.

Chair Lee asked if there was an indication as to whether mathematics preparation issues were being realized at the elementary, intermediate, or high school level. Executive Director Schatz stated it appears the problem lies at the intermediate and high school stages of a student's education, particularly during what he referred to as leverage points, where students are transitioning to higher levels of mathematics courses. He also drew attention to HiDOE's ongoing efforts to address this situation and ensure students entering high school or college are better prepared for the level of mathematics they will be encountering at those institutions.

Regent Miyahira inquired about how percentages related to Perkins V core indicators of performance are established and the basis for them. Executive Director Schatz replied that the percentages referenced by Regent Miyahira were established a few years ago when the current Perkins V Plan was approved. As for the basis of these performance indicators, Executive Director Schatz stated he would need to research this information and provide it to Regent Miyahira at a later date. He also noted the existence of an attachment contained within the Annual Report which provides more detailed information on the abovementioned performance metrics.

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Vice-Chair Tochiki moved to approve the CTE Annual Report for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year, seconded by Regent Akitake, and noting the excused absence of Regent Faumuina, the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Lee adjourned the meeting at 3:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Yvonne Lau
Executive Administrator and Secretary
of the Board of Regents