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## **Post-Secondary Quality Education Commission**

### **Quality Education Goals Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

#### **January 26, 2009**

**Members Present:** Gretchen Pierce (chair), Morgan Anderson, Ann McLaughlin, James Sager, Tony Van Vliet

Gretchen Pierce opened the meeting by stating she would like the Subcommittee to focus its discussion on defining quality including the middle 40% and communication efforts between the postsecondary system with the State of Oregon.

The Subcommittee discussed the challenges associated with defining the middle 40%. The Subcommittee suggested using hire ability as a metric for success. It was also suggested that quality metrics include production, progression, retention, and persistence rates.

James Sager commented on the importance of finding a methodology to track the reasons students in the middle 40% attend postsecondary education. He stated these students could be seeking educational opportunities to accomplish a career goal but a degree or certificate is not necessary to meet that goal. James Sager commented that some students that take a series of courses to advance in the workplace without a degree or certificate. Tony Van Vliet added that the forest products industry requires a series of courses to conduct specific tasks but a certificate is not required.

Morgan Anderson asked the Subcommittee to consider the gaps to assist in defining quality. The Subcommittee discussed its challenge in understanding and articulating the accomplishments of students in the middle 40% and the importance of defining student success without a degree or certificate.

Ann McLaughlin recommended an expansion of the Subcommittee's review of best practices of other states within the nation in an effort to develop an understanding of the metrics to define quality and the metrics for success. Gretchen Pierce requested to continue the discussion of the middle 40%, the definition of quality, and the metrics for success with the Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

#### **Summary of Action Items:**

- Gretchen Pierce agreed to discuss the gap analysis with Roger Bassett.