

Culinary Arts and Hospitality Advisory Meeting
Tuesday, April 25th, 2023
Lake Tahoe Community College
Zoom

Attendees:

Jamie Rhone (CTE Program Specialist/LTCC), Sara Hunter (Administrative Assistant/LTCC), Brad Deeds (Dean of Workforce Development & Instruction/LTCC), Adam Eynon (Dual Enrollment Grant Manager/LTCC), Elizabeth Balint (Director of Instructional Effectiveness/LTCC), David Jones (Faculty/STHS), Nicole Bergner (Academic Counselor/LTCC), Jason Butcherite (Faculty/WSU and LTCC), Glenn Simpson (Faculty/LTCC), Michael Bangs (Research Analyst/LTCC), Frank Gerdeman (Director of Adult Education/Advance), Terry Gegogine (Executive Chef/ Harrah's and Harvey's Lake Tahoe), Jeff Cowen (Board of Trustees Member/LTCC), Scott Justice (Director of Food and Beverage/ Sierra-At-Tahoe), Belen Urrutia (Restaurant and Bar Manager/Sierra-At-Tahoe), Virat Vij (Faculty/LTCC), Jeanette Shippee (Correctional Cook Supervisor/El Dorado County Jail, Faculty/LTCC), Josh Sweigert (Regional Director Industry Engagement/North Far North Regional), Claude Goode (CCC/Round Hill Pines Resort), Amber Goligoski (Program Coordinator Work-Based Learning/LTCC), Pat Fountain (Food Services Manager/Barton Health Care), and Vickie Cottrill (Faculty/STHS)

Industry Partner Updates:

Scott and Belen/Sierra-At-Tahoe: There were some challenges to get the season going after Covid and the Caldor fire. On top of that, we also had a huge snow season. They were able to rely on J-1 workers. They have implemented a new Employee Progression Program, which includes different phases employees can complete to earn a higher wage while gaining more company knowledge to provide a better guest experience. Amber mentioned that a LTCC student had an internship with them over the winter, and heard great feedback (great place to work, very supportive).

STHS/Dual Enrollment: Dual Enrollment class has good attendance, although it has been a struggle for students to retain interest in the culinary workforce. They are slowly adding catering back into the curriculum, which took a hit during Covid. They welcome any kind of industry feedback to learn what they should be teaching students to prepare them for the future. Adam shared the success from the recent collaboration with Nevada Union Joint High School- their culinary program has drawn the interest of 150-200 students. He hopes this will help to inspire students into seeing a future in the culinary/hospitality career field.

Claude/Round Hill Pines Resort: They will be opening May 1st. They are excited about the upcoming season and anticipate that it will be very busy this summer.

Terry/Harrah's & Harvey's: They have had some challenges with staffing and have been relying on J-1 workers for support. Housing in Tahoe has been a challenge in staffing and retention.

Pat/Barton: They are looking forward to a good summer. They are fully staffed. They do not experience the same roadblocks as other partners which could be due to their year-round consistency.

Jason: The HSP 130 course at LTCC has been going well so far. Most students in class are currently working in the field and are seeking to grow in the industry. They are experiencing the same challenges in regard to staffing at WSU. They have implemented new hiring and referral incentives.

Brad: Shared with the group the new Student Housing project at LTCC. Hopes that this can alleviate some of the housing challenges for our students and help boost attendance in face-to-face classes.

Glenn: Has been gearing up for a busy wedding season and has been working with Risking Scholar Program students at Juvenile Hall. Is positive and looking forward to the upcoming season.

Josh: Mentioned that housing and staffing issues are felt widespread throughout the region.

Virat: Excited for the opportunity as the new Full-Time Faculty for Culinary and Hospitality at LTCC. Feels like his students are all at different levels but can see great potential in students as well as the program.

Jeff: Mentioned that at the Joint Board Meeting between LTCC and LTUSD showed how important and powerful the Dual Enrollment program is. Brad mentioned that there was been a 337% increase in the FTES in the last years.

Annual Program Review:

Due to time constraints, the Annual Program Review data report will be emailed to attendees.

Perkins:

Perkins funding helps the Career & Technical Education department provide a Quarterly Textbook Lending Program, which provides textbooks for eligible students who are pursuing a CTE degree or certificate.

Meeting Adjourned.