**LTCC WEOL Advisory Committee**

**Minutes**

**April 16th, 2025**

**Attendees:** Brad Deeds (Dean of Workforce Development & Instruction/LTCC), Michelle Witte

(Youth Programs Manager/Tahoe Rim Trail Association), Nancy Dalton (Board of

Trustees/LTCC), Jesse McMinn (Program Aide/LTCC WEOL), Kaia Baird (Program Aide/LTCC

WEOL), Shelby Rugg (Outfitting Coordinator/LTCC WEOL), Damion Estrada (Program Aide and

Part Time faculty/LTCC WEOL), and Nate Smith (WEOL Director and Faculty/LTCC)

# Brad Deeds – Dean of Workforce Development

* Discussed Perkins Funding
* WEOL Student data reviewed (F2F/ Dist. Ed./ FTES)
* FTES next year projections discussed
* WEOL Student demographics discussed
* WEOL Program 3-year goal is to match demographic in local schools
* New WEOL entry level courses discussed (Hiking/Backpacking)
* WEOL Course success rate overview
* WEOL Program goal is to increase population of LTCC College promise program
* Presented updated Foundational Skills Certificates for WEOL for review by the committee – all approved without modification.

# Nancy Dalton – LTCC Board of Trustees

• Congratulated Nate Smith/ WEOL team for program growth



***Lake Tahoe Community College***

***Wilderness Education & Outdoor Leadership***

# Nate Smith – WEOL Program Director

* Commented on 4 student graduating with AA WEOL degree this academic year
* Also referenced 9 students in WEOL capstone class.
* Mentioned Employable Skills Certificate renaming Foundational Skills Certificates
* Foundational Skills Certificates typically 9-12 units
* Talked about creating blind sections for WEOL partners (Marines used as an example)
* Mentioned building a relationship with South Tahoe High School
* Discussed building partnerships with local Non Profit Organizations

# Michelle Witte – TRTA Youth Programs Manager

* New position to TRTA as Youth Program Manager
* 10 years in Wilderness Education in Tahoe
* 5 years as a Wilderness Educator in Boulder, Colorado
* Mentioned her work with ADA Trail in Tahoe Meadows
* TRTA leads 16-18 backcountry trips for youth on The Tahoe Rim Trail
* Looking to work with LTCC helping WEOL students with internships at TRTA
* Mentioned TRTA Executive Director – Lindsey Schultz desire for trail building classes
* Trail Building classes would be regional to locale they were being built
* Spoke on TRTA grant for diversity/equity

*wilderness@ltcc.edu* [*| www.ltcc.edu/wilderness |*](http://www.ltcc.edu/wilderness) [*wildernesseducation.info*](http://www.wildernesseducation.info/)

*Page | 1*

* Interested in WFR/LNT certificates through LTCC
* Starting a conversation in partnership with WEOL program and TRTA
* Stated 70%-90% TRTA students have barriers to wilderness education (Equipment/ Transportation)
* TRTA Pilot Program for youth has 15 students.
* Dec-Jan is when TRTA hires for summer positions

# Shelby Rugg – WEOL Outfitting Coordinator

• Mentioned DEI and ADA for wilderness access



***Lake Tahoe Community College***

***Wilderness Education & Outdoor Leadership***

*wilderness@ltcc.edu* [*| www.ltcc.edu/wilderness |*](http://www.ltcc.edu/wilderness) [*wildernesseducation.info*](http://www.wildernesseducation.info/)

*Page | 2*