



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

Nancy Dalton – LTCC Board of Trustees

- Congratulated Nate Smith/ WEOL team for program growth

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



- 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