



Scholars Board Minutes
5/08/08

Agenda Items	Time	Name	Decisions/Notes
Introductions & Brief Announcements			Present: Raymond Mullenax, Kathy Tidwell, Roxanne Printz, Jeremy Player, Eleanor Downey, Mary Jo Murdie, Patty Gregory , Mardell Nelson and Randy Rodriquez, Absent: Mark Schultz, Kris Richards, Lawanna Lancaster, Bri Watkins
Minutes Approval and Review Agenda			
<u>Work Updates:</u> *HR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the policy on Department Education Leave? 	Bri/Ray Mary Jo and Jeremy		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSU has provided HR with a complete list of students graduating for this school year. How is HR utilizing this information to help with recruitment? • Scholars Board will ask Bri to inquire into policies around employees returning to school and what is the current State policy position? This question

			<p>was raised at the program manager meeting in regards to several regions having employees who will be returning to school to obtain their MSW's.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mary Jo updated from the program manager meeting to convey that Program Managers will support some students obtaining their MSW's and allow some flex scheduling for employees to attend school. However, this must be balanced with meeting the work needs of the region and their clients as well as meeting the incentive to motivate employees to pursue education. Employees will be expected to work 40 hours per week, and if not, then they will be using flex time or vacation time.• The question was raised can the State use Title IV-E funds to support temporary workers to cover some of the work done by employees as they pursue school? This question was raised last year on the Scholars Board and the Board learned that this funding could not be used within Region X area due to a strict interpretation on how to use IV-E funds. It appears that other States may be doing this as a way to support retention with their workforce, but it is not clear.
<u>Policy & Procedure Issues</u>			

<p>*Staff student case for decision re: collection</p>	<p>Mardell</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• LCSC student was staffed for collection. This student was given deferral for a crisis pregnancy. At the end of her deferral period she accepted a position with the Nez Perce tribe. She was referred for collection and made some payments toward her work obligation. She then returned to school at Boise State to complete her MSW and stopped making her payments, reportedly she thought she would naturally go into deferral once she re-entered school. She is close to graduating from the MSW program and has expressed interest to Kathy Tidwell that she will get on the State Register for employment. The Board agreed that she has good intentions to work for the State and Kathy will contact her to let her know that she will need to complete a deferral request form for her MSW year in school and the State will grant her a deferral with the expectation she place herself on the State Employment Register upon graduation. This will prevent her from continuing to be considered in default.• This case highlights the importance of developing a relationship with the tribes throughout Idaho for Title IV-E scholars and as a site where students can complete their work obligation. Currently, the tribes do not accept IV-E funding and students cannot complete their work obligation at this site. The Board is
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<p>*Field Coordinators meeting and discussion around deferrals in the N. Idaho program(s).</p>	<p>Ray</p>		<p>concerned about institutional racism and is very interested in developing a relationship with the various tribes and finding a way to support students in this high need area, as well as employees. Kathy and Ray will draft a question to the child welfare list-serv to see how States are handling this issue. In effect this would support t the goals of disproportionality and disparate outcomes for youth of color in Idaho.</p>
<p>*Student Contract</p>	<p>Ray/All</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ray updated the Scholars Board on the Faculty Field Coordinator’s meeting. • The Scholars Board agreed to make a change on the Student Contracts to reflect the need for students to select three regions for employment as opposed to selecting two regions. Students will select the two regions of choice in combination with a high priority work need region for a total of three regions. High priority work need regions include Regions 1, 3, 4, and 5. The Scholars Board will monitor how this impacts the recruitment for each university to see if it may discourage student interest in the IV-E stipend. The Scholars Board is moving to increase the region selection to increase the recruitment for regions with the highest work need. If the program is not redirected the Scholars program could lose support from

			legislators and TANF funds, as well as program managers and administrators with conflicting priorities.
<p><u>New Ideas/Work</u></p> <p>*Discuss Logic Model Development and next steps (meeting on May 28th)</p> <p>*Focus Group Questions Student Institute</p>	<p>Ray/All</p> <p>Ray/All</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board will continue their work on the Logic Model at an all day meeting in Boise on May 28th. Meeting will go from 9AM to 4PM. Please notify Ray if you plan to attend. • The student responses from the Student Institute Focus Groups have been distributed to members of the Scholar Board. The questionnaire data from each university seminar has not yet been received and that information will be shared when it is received. A workgroup will be formed by this Board to begin work on analyzing the data and then developing a second phase of focus groups with a more objective assessment tool. Work group volunteers are needed for this work. Patty Gregory, Roxanne Printz and Eleanor Downey all volunteered to be part of this work group, but more volunteers are welcome.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LCSW Supervision and work contract obligation (suggestion by Michelle and program managers). Seeking interest from Scholar Board Members to volunteer to work in a work group to address this issue. 	*Mardell		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did not get to.
<i>Next meeting & Agenda</i>	<i>All</i>		<p><i>Boise State Child Welfare Center 300 Mallard, Ste. 120 May 28th 9:00 AM (MDT)-4:00 PM (MDT)</i></p>