Sent for Senate Approval: 1/26/2026
Senate Approved:

Official Minutes
Senate Outreach & Continuing Education Committee Meeting
01/22/2026

Call To Order and Approval of Minutes

Call to Order: SOCEC Chair Shawn Knabb called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: The May 21, 2025 meeting minutes were approved electronically on May 27, 2025.

Reports and Announcements

- **Shawn Knabb, SOCEC Chair,** had no reports or announcements
- **Robert Squires, Vice Provost for OCE,** had no reports or announcements.

Discussion Items

- **Annual Senate Reporting Requirements:** OCE will provide draft recommendations regarding the annual reporting requirements under the SOCEC charge prior to next month's meeting. It will be discussed next month and final recommendations will be forwarded to Senate Exec for consideration.
- **Update on College in the High Schools and Community College Transfer Partnerships:** Robert Squires, Vice Provost for OCE, provided an update on College in the High Schools and Community College Transfer Partnerships.
    - CiHS – OCE is currently confirming the interest of school districts and the capacity of faculty curriculum coordinators. Bellingham is interested in having alignment across all of its high schools, with a range of courses from across colleges and departments to be offered. The ranges of classes that other high schools are interested in offering was presented. Burlington-Edison is interested in a using CiHS as possible Running Start alternative.

The AY 2026-27 high school partners to date are: all Bellingham high schools, Blaine, Ferndale, Lakewood, Liberty Bell, Mt. Vernon, Nooksack Valley, Lummi Nation, Burlington-Edison, Lynden, Wenatchee Valley, North Kitsap, Kingston, La Conner, Meridian.

The current appropriated funding is approximately $5,100 per course for courses over 17 students, with $300 per student for courses under 17 students. It is difficult to cover costs unless there are at least 15 students in a course. In response to a question about whether CiHS is breaking even as a whole, it was reported that Washington State does not compensate for courses until the year after the course, meaning that it is modeled with deficits as the program builds out.

There is no update on the MOU with UFWW, with bargaining to be scheduled by UFWW.

There are approximately 300 students enrolled as of Fall Quarter. Enrollment will be updated in Spring Quarter and is expected to be higher. Of the 319 students who participated prior to Fall 2025, admissions applications have been received from approximately 19 percent of them.

In response to a question about AP/IB courses as they relate to CiHS courses, it was reported that each school handles this issue differently through conversations between the school and WWU faculty curriculum coordinators.

- Community College Transfers Partnership – The focus is on guaranteed transfer admissions and the direct admit to major, with a target under the Presidential Strategic Enrollment Growth Initiative if 1,200 transfer students, compared to 900 last year. There are signed partnerships with Cascadia College, Everett, Seattle Colleges, Shoreline, Skagit Valley, Whatcom, Olympic (managed by Peninsulas), and Peninsula (managed by Peninsulas). Ongoing conversations are occurring with Highline, South Puget Sound, Spokane, Edmonds, Green River, and Wenatchee Valley.

  There is a pilot for on-the-spot admissions at the top four feeder schools, and Bellingham campus visits for Seattle Colleges students are being scheduled.

  The Vice Provost has been having discussions with faculty groups regarding student support services and programs.

Items from the Floor

The Vice Provost for OCE brought up the continued inclusion of the Executive Director of the Global Engagement Office as an ex-officio member on the revised committee roster approved on November 11. The committee discussed whether the Global Engagement Office should report as needed to the full Senate as a result of University reorganization. It was suggested that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee could consider this issue as part of proposed technical changes to the Handbook later this year, which include changes to the SOCEC roster. Those changes were summarized for committee members.

Adjournment

Committee members adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

SOCEC Attendance
01/22/2026

Voting Members			Non-Voting Members		
Shawn Knabb	CBE (Chair)	x	Robert Squires	Vice Provost, OCE	x
Vacant	CHSS	NA	Ryan Larsen	Global Education Office	--
Tim Kowalczyk	CSE	x			
Vacant	Fairhaven	NA	**Recorder**		
Elizabeth Stephan	Libraries	x	Becky Johnston	Faculty Senate	x
Michael Medler	CENV	--			
Jennifer Green	WCE	x	**Guests**		
Susan Haines	CFPA	x	Andrew Blick	OCE	x
Lindsay Foreman-Murray	Faculty Senate	x			
Arden Shier	ASWWU Senate	x			
Vacant	UFWW	NA			
Vacant	IEP/Language & Culture Programs	NA			

Voting Attendees	7
Non-Voting Attendees	3
Total Attendees	**10**