

Public Comments April 9, 2021-April 23, 2021

1. Comment #1 (Comments on draft Strategic Plan) Received 4/21/21 1

Mike Phillips [REDACTED]

To: Ginger Ostro

Cc: Phillips, Mike

The comments below are my personal opinions informed by my 30+ years in higher education. They may or may not reflect the views of my employer or the groups with which I am affiliated; my affiliations are provided to indicate the sources of my experience.

Comment 1: Priority Area 1 includes "Expand equitable access to and success in early college, including but not limited to AP and IB, dual credit, early college models, etc." - This is based on the assumption that AP, IB, and dual credit lead to success rather than that they are taken by successful students. This assumption needs to be investigated, not assumed based on correlative data. To ensure the future success of prospective college students, the state needs to examine this assumption and ensure that best practices are identified and encouraged. (Should there be limits? What is the appropriate role of college advisors? What criteria can be used to identify which students will benefit from early college and which types of experiences will best serve an individual student?)

Comment 2: Priority Area 1 also includes "Provide meaningful career exploration, career development, and work-based learning opportunities for students." and Priority Area 2 includes "Support systematic implementation of high-impact academic and student support practices, such as intrusive advising, undergraduate research, creating sense of belonging on campus, first-year experience, summer bridge, meeting basic needs/well-being, addressing financial literacy, digital divide..." These practices could be negatively impacted by students earning early college credit while at their high school. These practices typically take place on the higher ed campus and cannot be offered to students taking their college coursework at their college. Students graduating high school with a full year (or two full years) of college credit are likely to miss opportunities to participate in these high-impact practices.

Comment 3: Priority Area 3 includes "Reduce student expenses through Open Education Resources." For this to be successful, the OERs need support for development, review, maintenance, and a platform host. The Strategic Plan should include this type of support.

Comment 4: Should research be included as an additional Priority Area? – It is a primary function of universities and their faculty and is seen as an economic driver for the state.

Sincerely,

Mike Phillips

(pronouns: he/him) ([What is this?](#))

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