Legislative Initiatives  
2015 - 2016

4 Primary Areas of focus (State) – Collaborative Goals with WTCS Legislative Advocacy

1. **Mission** – Provide information to counteract the concerns around duplication of services among technical colleges and 2-year UW System. Strategies:
   
   a. Focus on pathways for students in high school through displaced worker populations.
   
   b. MATC serves as access point for students in our community.
   
   c. Strong community/business partnerships providing value to the community.

2. **WHEG** – Underfunded for our students – need additional funding to support students gaining access to technical colleges.

3. **Funding/Governance** – Support current funding and governance model.
   
   a. Oppose Performance Funding at 100%
   
   b. Funding formula has been fixed with last legislative action substantially decreasing support from property taxpayers.
   
   c. Local governance imperative to meet community/business needs.
   
   d. Levy authority to fund construction and equipment demands while remaining flexible and nimble to meet changing employer/workforce demands.

4. **Tuition** – Do not support tuition freeze
   
   a. Not in best interests of the students, decreased revenue could result in less offerings, etc.

**Other Initiatives (Federal, State and Local)**

1. **Workforce Training Funding** – Secure additional federal, state and local funding that supports programs/services/individuals.
   
   
   b. Wisconsin DWD Fast Forward Grants
2. Increase PELL Grant Funding to meet demand

3. President Obama’s America’s College Promise – Promote a federal-state partnership grant that would provide free tuition at community colleges for qualified students.


5. Monitor Park East Redevelopment Initiatives

6. Support legislation to reduce student loan default and increase student loan forgiveness.

**Advocacy Efforts to Support Initiatives**

1. State and Federal Legislative Visits by Dr. Martin and Board members

2. Regular communications with state and federal legislators regarding accomplishments of student constituents

3. Campus Visits by Legislators

4. Engage Business/Community Partners in advocacy efforts and to support funding needs of the technical colleges

5. Engage students and student groups in legislator interactions/advocacy efforts.