CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Legislative Task Force Committee was held on Thursday, May 22, 2014, and called to order by Chairperson Falkenberg at 12:05 p.m. in the Board Room, Room M210, at the Downtown Milwaukee Campus of Milwaukee Area Technical College.

A. ROLL CALL:

Members Present:

Lauren Baker, Jason Bauknecht, Michael Burke, Ellis Bromberg, Charles Bruders, Tim Elverman, Janice Falkenberg, Gustavo Hinojosa, Camille Nicolai and Cheralyn Randall

Members Absent:

Lindsey Becker, Archie Graham, Trevor Kubatzke, Michael Rosen and Marwill Santiago

COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETINGS LAW:

The Legislative Task Force meeting was noticed in compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meetings law.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 22, 2014 MEETING:

Dr. Burke moved, and Mr. Hinojosa seconded, that the minutes be approved. The Task Force concurred.

C. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Legislative Update:

a. Federal:

2015 Federal Budget Proposals
The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a markup of its Fiscal Year 2015 funding bill on June 10, 2014. However, the full Senate Appropriations Committee then cancelled its markup of the same bill on June 12. The Senate (controlled by Democrats) and the House (controlled by Republicans) remain divided on a compromise 2015 federal budget. The maximum award for the Pell Grant was increased by $100 bringing the total to $5,830 per year.

Federal Student Loan Debt
On June 9, the President signed a new Presidential Memorandum (PAYE) directing the Secretary of Education to propose regulations that would allow nearly 5 million additional federal direct student loan borrowers the opportunity to cap their student loan payments at 10 percent of their discretionary income. The Presidential Memorandum also outlines a series of new executive actions aimed to support federal student loan borrowers,
especially for vulnerable borrowers who may be at greater risk of defaulting on their loans.

The President’s announcement would expand the PAYE plan to certain older Direct Loans that are currently ineligible under the PAYE program. However, the DOE will need until December of 2015 to enact regulations to implement the President’s new Executive Order. Therefore, our students (and graduates) will not see any relief from this Executive Order until at least 2015.

b. **State:**

**Legislative Council Study Committee Reviewing Wisconsin Tech College System Funding and Governance**

This Legislative Council Study Committee, co-chaired by Rep. John Nygren and Sen. Sheila Harsdorf, is scheduled to have its first public meeting at 10 a.m. on July 24. Members of the Committee include MATC Board member David Dull. The first meeting is open to the public, but only invited speakers will be allowed to comment/participate that day. Ms. Falkenberg stated that the college will be coordinating letter writing campaigns as well as organizing meetings with local representatives and businesses throughout the summer to strategize ways to deal with this issue.

c. **Local:**

**Reconstruction of I-94**

Ms. Falkenberg stated that the Department of Transportation (DOT) current plans for re-construction of I-94 currently will not impact access to our West Allis Campus. A. Pinckney will continue to monitor the progression of the reconstruction on behalf of MATC.

**Meeting Dates – FY2014-15**

Future meeting dates will be determined at the August 21, 2014.

D. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Desma P. Madison