CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Legislative Task Force Committee was held on Monday, February 23, 2015, and called to order by Janice 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, Charles Bruders, Janice Falkenberg, Trevor Kubatzke, Vicki Martin, Bill Neville, Camille Nicolai, Cheralyn Randall and Ramie Zelenkova

Members Absent:

Ellis Bromberg, Archie Graham, Gustavo Hinojosa and Michael Rosen

B. COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETINGS LAW:

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

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2015 MEETING:

Ms. Baker moved, and Ms. Nicolai seconded, that the minutes be approved. The Task Force concurred.

D. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Legislative Update:

   a. Federal:

      ACCT Legislative Summit
      Directors Ali, Baker, Holmes, Ms. Falkenberg and Ms. Randall attended the ACCT Legislative Summit meeting in Washington D.C. from February 9, 2015 to February 11, 2015. They visited with Congressional staff and updated them on issues of concern to MATC, particularly Pell Grant funding. The Task Force discussed the federal legislative priorities that included federal funding for community colleges and students as well as the Higher Education Act (HEA).
      C. Randall updated the Task Force on the think tanks attended by the Grants Department during the ACCT Conference. Discussions included measuring the success of career pathways, the reauthorization of Perkins as well as the TAAACCCT grants.
b. **State:**

**Biennial Budget 2015-17**
The Task Force discussed the different facets of Governor Walker’s biennial budget. The issues that affect the college the most are the proposed tuition freeze for high demand programs and performance based funding, which will shift general aid funding to 100% by FY2020. The Task Force will continue to monitor these issues.

Another item included in the budget is the alternative teacher’s license. This license would allow individuals with a bachelor’s degree and real life experience to teach grades 6 – 12. Also, the Governor has proposed a plan to allow the state to bond $220 million in state-issued bonds for the construction of a new facility in downtown Milwaukee for use by the Milwaukee Bucks and other entertainment purposes.

c. **Local:**

**Bradley Center**
Discussions surrounding the Bradley Center continue. The Task Force will continue to monitor the Bucks Arena development.

d. **Grants Update:**
C. Randall made the Task Force aware of an apprenticeship grant opportunity for WTCS in collaboration with DOL.

2. **Legislative Advocacy Planning**
The Legislative Breakfast is scheduled for Friday, March 13 at 7:30 a.m. The Task Force will be updated on its outcome at the March 23 meeting.

E. **Meeting Dates – FY2014-15**

- March 23, 2015
- April 27, 2015
- May 25, 2015 *
- June 22, 2015
*Meeting scheduled for the third week due to holiday

F. **ADJOURNMENT:**
The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Desma P. Madison*