CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Legislative Task Force Committee was held on Thursday, October 17, 2013, and called to order by Chairperson Falkenberg at 12:08 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, Lindsey Becker, Ellis Bromberg, Charles Bruders, Michael Burke Tim Elverman, Janice Falkenberg, Archie Graham, Camille Nicholai, Trevor Kubatcke Michael Rosen and Marwill Santiago

Members Absent:

Drew Farina 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 SEPTEMBER 19, 2013 MEETING:

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

D. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Legislative Update:

   a. Federal:

   2014 Federal Budget
   The Task Force Committee members noted that Congress and the President appeared to be in agreement on approving special legislation to end the Federal government shutdown by the end of the day on October 17. Under the agreement, the government will continue to operate at the 2013 funding levels.
b. **State:**

**Legislative Elections**
Mr. Elverman noted that there are two special elections taking place that will affect legislative districts in MATC’s service area. The primary election, to replace Rep. Mark Honadel, is taking place on October 22, with the general election for that district on November 19. The special election to replace Rep. Jeff Stone will have a primary on November 19, with the final election taking place on December 17. Ms. Baker noted that Rep. Jon Richards has announced his intention to run for Attorney General next year, so there will also be a new Representative in his district following the November, 2014 elections.

**State Legislation**
T. Elverman distributed the updated document entitled “*State Legislation That Could Affect MATC*” and highlighted several recently introduced pieces of legislation, as well as action taken in recent weeks on bills discussed previously by the Task Force.

**Concealed Carry Permitted On School Grounds by Certain Law Enforcement Officers (AB 9)**
This bill would change Wisconsin law so that certain law enforcement officers would be allowed to carry guns on property where there is a posting prohibiting such action. A public hearing on this bill was held on October 10. J. Bauknecht will continue to monitor this bill.

**Changes Affecting Governance and Funding for the Wisconsin Technical College System (AB 177)**
This legislation would transfer all Technical College district facilities and assets to the Wisconsin Technical College System Board on July 1, 2015 and also prohibit local Tech College district boards from levying property taxes. It would also increase the state’s sales tax by one cent on January 1, 2015 to help pay the costs of operating the Technical Colleges. The Assembly Colleges and Universities Committee had a hearing on this bill on October 10. Jason Bauknecht attended the hearing and registered MATC in opposition to the bill. In addition, J. Falkenberg and D. Walker have secured letters in opposition to the legislation from some of MATC’s business partners. The Task Force reviewed one of the letters from Michael Mallwitz of Busch Precision Inc. J. Bauknecht noted that Rep. Nass and the Assembly leadership have advised him that this bill will not advance from its committee.

**Changes to Barbering and Cosmetology Regulations (SB 237)**
This bill would make several changes to laws and regulations governing barbering and cosmetology in Wisconsin. The bill was amended to reinstate dyeing, tinting, coloring and bleaching back into the original definition of barbering. It was noted that the amended bill does not include a revision to restore the number of practical hours of training required for an apprentice to sit for an examination. The bill, as amended, was
approved in the Senate on 10/8/13. SB 237’s companion bill in the Assembly, AB 291, was approved by its committee 11-0 on 10/10/13. Mr. Elverman expects SB 237 to be approved, as amended, in the Assembly in the near future.

**Changing the Makeup of the Cosmetology Examining Board at DSPS (SB 345)**

This bill makes several changes to the laws governing professional regulation in Wisconsin. Included in those changes is a requirement that the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) allow four (rather than two) members of the Cosmetology Examining Board to be affiliated with a cosmetology school. Ms. Baker asked Mr. Elverman to further research the makeup of the current Board and the definition of a “cosmetology school”.

**Requiring the Department of Revenue to Re-determine the Value of Tax Base of Tax Incremental Districts (AB 289, SB 252)**

This bill would allow a city or village to adopt a resolution requiring the DOR to re-determine the tax incremental base of a TID that is in a decrement (value decreasing) situation that has continued for at least two consecutive years. Decrement is defined as being at least 10 percent less than the current value of the TID’s tax incremental base. This bill will impact how much the college is able to levy. SB 252 had a public hearing on 9/18/13 and was approved by the committee 5-0 on 9/25/13. It was then approved in the Senate 32-0 on 10/8/13. Mr. Elverman expects this legislation to be approved by the Assembly in the near future.

**Enrollment Requirements for Recipients of Talent Incentive Grants (AB 260, SB 229)**

This bill provides that a student need not maintain continuous enrollment in a school to remain eligible for a Talent Incentive Grant. AB 260 was approved by its committee on 10/10/13. SB 229 had a public hearing on 8/28/13. Ms. Nicolai noted that student financial aide professionals at all the Tech Colleges support this legislation.

**Charter School Authorization (SB 76)**

Current law allows MATC and certain other entities to operate charter schools directly or to contract for the operation of a charter school. This legislation would require entities (such as MATC) to amend any contracts to allow a second charter school if DPI has rated the charter schools already in operation by that entity as “exceeds expectations” for the two most recent school years. Ms. Baker advised the Task Force Committee that MATC’s board currently has a resolution in place which prohibits the establishment of a charter school by MATC. Therefore, this legislation would not impact MATC at the current time. The Task Force asked Mr. Elverman and Mr. Bauknecht to continue to monitor the legislation.
Technical Excellence Higher Education Scholarships (AB 398, SB 334)
This bill creates a Technical Education Higher Education Scholarship Program under which HEAB awards scholarships to certain scholars based on proficiency in technical education subjects who enroll on a full-time basis in a Technical College District school. The number and amounts of scholarships awarded, and the conditions for receipt of the scholarships are the same as under the Academic Excellence Higher Education Program. AB 398 was referred to the Committee on Children and Families, and had a public hearing on 10/3/13. The Committee voted 9-1 in favor of the bill on 10/9/13. SB 334 had a public hearing on 10/10/13 and was approved 5-0 by its Committee on 10/11/13. Both bills were then referred to the Joint Finance Committee and AB 398 was approved 16-0 on 10/15/13. The Task Force Committee asked Ms. Nicolai and Mr. Elverman to further research the legislation to make sure that this is not creating a separate new program, rather than simply renaming the Academic Excellence Higher Education Program.

Career and Technical Education Incentive Grants (AB 399, SB 31)
This bill creates a grant program to promote career and technical education programs in high school districts in the state. DPI must confer with DWD and WTCS to identify industries and occupations that face workforce shortages. DPI then awards grants of $1000 per pupil to school districts for each pupil who completes one of the certified programs. The bill allocates $3 million for these grants, and calls for them being available for the 2014-15 school year. This bill was approved 15-0 by the Joint Finance Committee on Oct. 15, and is likely to be approved by the legislature. Ms. Baker noted that while this bill does not directly impact the Technical Colleges, it should have a positive effect on Tech College interest and enrollment since it focuses on technical education.

Dental Hygienist’s Administration of Nitrous Oxide Inhalation Analgesia (AB 408, SB 311)
This bill would require the Dentistry Examining Board to grant a certificate to administer nitrous oxide inhalation analgesia to a dental hygienist who is licensed by the Board and who satisfies certain requirements that the bill directs the Board to establish. AB 408 was referred to the Committee on Health. Mr. Elverman noted that he had conferred with Dean Dessie Levy regarding this legislation and she advised him that it appears to be desirable legislation which MATC could support. Mr. Elverman will continue to monitor the bill.

Changes to Examination Requirements for Various Professional Credentials Issued by the Department of Safety and Professional Services and the Board of Nursing (SB 337 AB 404)
Under this bill, DSPS or a Board may not require a person to complete any postsecondary education or other program before the person is eligible to take an examination for a credential. However, the bill was amended to say that an applicant for licensure as a registered nurse or licensed
practical nurse must receive approval from the applicant’s school in order to take the examination before graduation. This change in the bill came about because of the advocacy of Dean Dessie Levy, MATC’s advocacy team, and Paul Gabriel and the District Board’s Association. SB 337 was referred to the Committee on Economic Development and Local Government and had a public hearing on 10/10/13. It was approved 5-0 on 10/11/13. It was approved by the full Senate 33-0 on 10/15/13. AB 404 was referred to a Committee but has not had a public hearing.

**Priority Registration for Veterans in Classes at Tech Schools and UW System (AB 201)**

This legislation requires the Tech Colleges and the UW System schools to give priority to veterans registering for any classes. This bill originally only applied to the UW System, but was amended to also apply to the Tech Colleges. This bill was approved by the Assembly 94 to 1 on 6/6/13 and by the Senate 33-0 on 10/15/13. It is waiting to be signed into law by the Governor. It could affect MATC enrollment in the spring, 2014 semester.

c. **Local:**

The committee will continue to monitor the 2014 Milwaukee County budget process to ensure that bus routes affecting MATC’s campuses and students are not cut or curtailed.

**Meeting Dates – FY2013-14**

The Task Force will meet the following dates at 12:00 p.m. in the Board Room (M210):

- November 21, 2013  March 20, 2014
- December 12, 2013  April 10, 2014
- February 20, 2014  June 19, 2014

**E. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Desma P. Madison