

**STUDY SESSION DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL – November 15, 2012 - 7:00 p.m.
21630 11th Avenue South, City Council Chambers**

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Note: ***Comments must be limited to the items of business on the Study Session Agenda per Council Rule 10.*** Please sign in prior to the meeting and limit your comments to three minutes.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Highline Community College/Central WA
University/Heritage University Policy
Discussion

DISCUSSION LEADER:

Mayor Kaplan

GOAL:

Direction

EST. TIME:

2 hours

NEXT MEETING DATE: Regular Meeting November 29, 2012

ADJOURNMENT

AGENDA ITEM

BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL City of Des Moines, WA

SUBJECT: Highline Community College, Central Washington University and Heritage University Policy Discussion

ATTACHMENTS:

FOR AGENDA OF: November 15, 2012

DEPT. OF ORIGIN: Planning, Building & Public Works

DATE SUBMITTED: November 8, 2012

CLEARANCES:

Legal N/A

Finance N/A

Marina N/A

Parks, Recreation & Senior Services N/A

Planning, Building & Public Works N/A *AS*

Police N/A

Courts N/A

APPROVED BY CITY MANAGER
FOR SUBMITTAL: *AS*

Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is for the City Council to begin a conversation around the Highline Community College (HCC), Central Washington University (CWU) and Heritage University programs at the HCC campus in Des Moines. The theme of the discussion is "Access to Educational Opportunities and Economic Benefits to the Community" as it relates to these institutions of higher education.

No Council action is requested.

Background

The following information is excerpted from the Highline Community College, Central Washington University and Heritage University websites to provide an overview of their demographics and programs. This information will be supplemented by more detailed presentations from the Presidents of these institutions: Dr. Jack Bermingham - HCC, Dr. Jim Gaudino - CWU, and Dr. John Bassett - Heritage University.

Highline Community College was founded in 1961 as the first community college in King County, and is one of 34 community and technical colleges in Washington State. It is nationally and internationally

recognized as a premier community college and serves approximately 16,900 students. The majority of HCC's students live in southwest King County; however the number of students from other states and countries continues to grow.

HCC employs over 1,150 people, which includes the 50-plus jobs created through on-campus partnerships with Central Washington University, Heritage University and Kaplan College. Through these partnerships the campus now offers a bachelor's program and four master's programs.

Highline serves as a hub of innovative education and training opportunities, supporting students, the community, and the King County economy. HCC estimates an average 5.8 percent return on investment for Highline students. In 2010, Highline supported 800 local entrepreneurs through programs and services, helped launch 12 new businesses, and generated \$9 million in investments. International students bring an additional \$7.7 million to King County's economy annually.

“Core Themes” submitted to Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) in February 2011 are:

Core Theme #1: Promote student engagement, learning, and achievement.

Highline is a learning community where students are empowered to pursue their own educational pathways through innovative curricula, quality instruction, and student services. Students engage with their peers and community to experience multiple perspectives, practice civic responsibility, and contribute to the global community.

Core Theme #2: Integrate and institutionalize diversity and globalism throughout the college. Highline is an institution in which issues of diversity and globalism are central to decision-making, integrated throughout curriculum and pedagogy, and considered in all interactions among faculty, staff and students. Faculty and staff are culturally competent, all students progress and achieve at comparable rates, and a positive campus climate exists for all.

Core Theme #3: Build valuable relationships and establish a meaningful presence within Highline Community College's communities.

Highline Community College, in collaboration with community partners, identifies community needs, and develops, implements, and maintains programs based on those identified needs.

Core Theme #4: Model sustainability in human resources, operations, and teaching and learning.

Sustainability calls for policies, procedures, and strategies that meet society's present needs without compromising the welfare of future generations. Sustainability encompasses the intertwined ideals of viable economies, social equity, and ecological integrity. For the college, sustainability calls for us to use our resources — human, physical and financial — to improve the future success of the college, minimize our impact on the environment, and model sustainability for students.

In October 2011, HCC completed the update to their College Master Plan that establishes a long range program for the continued development and renewal of Highline Community College's (HCC) Des Moines campus and the establishment or expansion of the College's off campus sites in Burien, Federal

Way, Redondo, Tukwila, White Center and other locations. The Master Plan explains the College's programs, describes its current and future campus facilities requirements and the effect its activities have on the surrounding political jurisdictions. Program elements related to the Des Moines' Campus center around the consolidation of smaller buildings into larger buildings for increased efficiencies, transportation and parking. The Master Plan can be viewed on the college's website at: <http://facilities.highline.edu/masterplan.php>

Central Washington University is a four-year public university located in Ellensburg, Washington. CWU prepares students to succeed in a global economy through strong partnerships with 30 colleges and universities around the world. CWU centers are co-located on community college campuses around the state to provide greater access to higher education. CWU-Des Moines provides the opportunity for students to earn their first two years of a bachelor's degree at Highline Community College and stay on campus to complete their bachelor's degree.

Each year CWU graduates thousands of well-educated citizens who are ready for high-demand careers in the workforce: construction management, accounting, engineering technology, teacher education, wine business, paramedicine, aviation, and more.

Heritage University is a non-profit, independent, non-denominational accredited university offering undergraduate and graduate education. Its mission is to provide quality, accessible higher education to multicultural populations that have been educationally isolated. Heritage's main campus is located in Toppenish, Washington and branch campuses are located at:

- Big Bend Community College (Moses Lake)
- Columbia Basin College (Pasco)
- Highline Community College (Des Moines)
- Yakima Valley Community College (Yakima)

Academic programs at Heritage University are administered through two colleges – the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Education and Psychology. Heritage University offers Associate's, Bachelor's, Master's, certificate and online programs. In 2011, Heritage had a fall enrollment of 887 undergraduate students and 328 graduate students and awarded 20 Associate's degrees, 104 Bachelor's degrees, 124 Master's degrees and 7 Certificates.

Discussion

“Access to Educational Opportunities and Economic Benefits to the Community” will be the theme of the discussion. The evening will begin with presentations by Dr. Jack Bermingham - HCC, Dr. Jim Gaudino – CWU, and Dr. John Bassett – Heritage University to set the stage for the discussion. The format will be a roundtable conversation between the City Council and Presidents from Highline Community College (HCC), Central Washington University (CWU) and Heritage University.

A goal for this discussion is to begin thinking about how the City of Des Moines, HCC, CWU and Heritage University can strengthen our partnerships for shared benefit. For example:

- Are there opportunities to recruit businesses to our community that could support student internships or provide job opportunities after graduation?

- Are there opportunities to create centers of research and development that support or are supported by the academic programs offered at HCC and its partner institutions?
- How will the extension of Link Light Rail further strengthen the role of these institutions in the Puget Sound Region such as partnerships with the University of Washington?
- How do we address the growing demand for student housing, particularly as it relates to the growing international and out of state student enrollment.

Alternatives

N/A

Financial Impact

As the largest community college in the State, Highline Community College and its partner institutions provide a unique opportunity to attract local and international business and investment which can result in positive economic benefits to the City of Des Moines and the surrounding region.

Recommendation or Conclusion

Staff recommends continued discussions and collaboration with HCC, CWU and Heritage University to better understand how each can support mutual goals for increasing opportunities for higher learning and the associated benefits to the local and regional economy.

Concurrence

N/A