

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE AND BOARD ACTION

COMMITTEE: Assessment and Accountability	NO.:	AAC 04-23
	COMMITTEE DATE:	June 8, 2004
	BOARD DATE:	June 15, 2004

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education hereby approves updated peer institutions for state and community colleges as part of the Enhanced Performance Accountability System.

Authority: Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 15A, Section 7A

Background

As part of the Performance Accountability System as required in statute, the Board of Higher Education, in consultation with the institutions, is required to develop a performance measurement system that includes specific performance measures with which to evaluate the institutions and with which to compare them with peer institutions with similar missions in other states. A credible reference group of peer institutions is essential for meaningful comparative purposes in the Board's system of performance measurement.

Peer institutions were originally selected in January 1998. With the implementation of the Enhanced Performance Measurement System in September 2003, it was critical to provide colleges with an opportunity to review and revise their peers in order to reflect more accurately comparable institutions in 2004. For the purposes of assessing performance, comparisons are made between an institution and its group of peers, not between the institution and any one institution on the peer list. Only two performance indicators are currently benchmarked against peers: Institutional Support Costs for state and community colleges and Graduation Rates for state colleges.

For the past six months, the Board has contracted with NCHEMS, the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, to work with the state and community colleges and Board staff on selecting and approving an appropriate list of peers for each institution. NCHEMS did the following:

- Consulted with the Executive Office of Community Colleges and the American Association of Community Colleges on the appropriate methodology for the community colleges to have AACC use in developing their list of peer institutions. NCHEMS approved the methodology and provided the Chancellor of Higher Education with a written memorandum indicating that the AACC methodology for peer selection was acceptable to NCHEMS.
- Reviewed and assessed the resulting AACC recommended list of peer institutions for each Massachusetts community college and prepared for the Chancellor and the Board written recommendations on acceptance/non-acceptance of peers put forth by the community colleges.
- Conducted a peer selection process/service for eight of the state colleges. NCHEMS President Dennis Jones consulted via telephone conference call with a representative group of state colleges to refine selection criteria after the first data run conducted by NCHEMS.

Campuses had an opportunity to submit names of peer institutions for NCHEMS to review, to discuss the institutions recommended by NCHEMS, and to make final

adjustments to the lists, when appropriate. Board staff has reviewed the lists as has the Chancellor. The attached peers are presented for Board approval.

Institution	Proposed Peers
Community Colleges	
Berkshire	Southwestern Michigan Community College Sauk Valley Community College Mineral Area College Alpena Community College Bay De Noc Community College Cumberland County Community College Greenfield Community College Quinebaug Valley Community College Colorado Northwestern Community College Northwestern Connecticut Community College
Bristol	Atlantic Cape Community College North Shore Community College Manchester Community College Northwestern Michigan College Hutchinson Community College Lake Land College Tunxis Community College Finger Lakes Community College
Bunker Hill	Community College Of Denver Kansas City Kansas Community College Baltimore City Community College Howard Community College Metropolitan Community Colleges Saint Louis Community College-Forest Park Cincinnati State Technical And Community College Cuyahoga Community College District
Cape Cod	Bossier Parish Community College College Of Eastern Utah Greenfield Community College Ivy Tech State College-Southwest Lake-Sumter Community College Mount Wachusett Community College Naugatuck Valley Community College Tunxis Community College Wenatchee Valley College Western Nevada Community College

Institution	Proposed Peers
Greenfield	Berkshire Community College Quinebaug Valley Community College Northwestern Connecticut Community College Chipola Junior College Iowa Lakes Community College Hibbing Community College-A Tech And Community College Big Bend Community College Northwest College
Holyoke	Manchester Community College Black Hawk College Kansas City Kansas Community College Massasoit Community College Northern Essex Community College Mercer County Community College Raritan Valley Community College Erie Community College Orange County Community College Seattle Community College-North Campus
Massachusetts Bay	Pueblo Community College Middlesex Community College, NJ Walla Walla Community College Pasco-Hernando Community College Yakima Valley Community College North Shore Community College Bunker Hill Community College Bevill State Community College
Massasoit	Black Hawk College Broome Community College Dutchess Community College Harrisburg Area Community College CUNY Bronx Community College Cincinnati State Tech & Community College Holyoke Community College Red Rocks Community College Seattle Community College—North Campus
Middlesex	Kansas City Kansas Community College Baltimore City Community College County College Of Morris Essex County College Erie Community College - North Campus Niagara County Community College Rockland Community College Westmoreland County Community College

Institution	Proposed Peers
Mount Wachusett	Edison State Community College College of Eastern Utah Greenfield Community College Middlesex Community College St. Clair County Community College Three Rivers Community College Tunxis Community College St. John's River Community College
North Shore	Northern Essex Community College Gateway Community College, Connecticut Essex County Community College Central Florida Community College Mott Community College Howard Community College
Northern Essex	Elgin Community College Parkland College Jackson Community College Atlantic Community College Mercer County Community College Onondaga Community College Lorain County Community College Northampton County Area Community College
Quinsigamond	North Shore Community College Northern Essex Community College Ivy Tech State College-Central Indiana Delaware Technical and Community College- Stanton-Wilmington Bristol Community College Ivy Tech State College-Northwest Gateway Community College John C. Calhoun State Community College Thomas Nelson Community College
Roxbury	Capital Community College Housatonic Community College Baltimore Community College CUNY Hostos Community College Lawson State Community College Atlanta Metropolitan College Hudson County Community College Passaic County Community College
Springfield Technical	Texas State Technical College Naugatuck Valley Community Technical College Central Florida Community College Broome Community College Baltimore City Community College Cincinnati State Community College Erie Community College Milwaukee Area Technical College

Institution	Proposed Peers
State Colleges	
Bridgewater State College	Rhode Island College William Patterson University Kutztown University Central Connecticut State University SUNY College at Cortland Radford University Shippensburg University Bloomsburg University Kean University California State University-Bakersfield
Fitchburg State College	Albany State University Auburn University-Montgomery Chicago State University Fort Hays State University Georgia College and State University Saginaw Valley State University University of Michigan-Flint University Of Tennessee-Chattanooga Western Carolina University
Framingham State College	California State University - San Marcos East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania Fitchburg State College New Jersey City University Northeastern Illinois University State University of New York - Potsdam Southern University at New Orleans Western Connecticut State University
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	Elizabeth City State University Merrimack College Ramapo College of New Jersey St Mary's College of Maryland SUNY College at Old Westbury University of Minnesota-Morris University of North Carolina at Asheville University of Virginia's College at Wise
Salem State College	Rhode Island College Central Connecticut State University Southern Connecticut State University Kean University New Jersey City University California University of Pennsylvania Kennesaw State University California State University-Dominguez Hills California State University-Bakersfield

Institution	Proposed Peers
Westfield State College	Augusta State University California State University-San Marcos Eastern Connecticut State University Francis Marion University Frostburg State University Southern Oregon University Southern Utah University SUNY College at Fredonia University of Wisconsin-Green Bay University of Wisconsin-Parkside
Worcester State College	Armstrong Atlantic University California State University- Dominguez Hills Georgia College and State University Midwestern State University Rhode Island College University of Michigan-Flint Western Connecticut State University University of Southern Maine