Call to Order

Vice Chair Robert Moore called the November 13, 2001, meeting of the Committee on Economic Development and Vocational Education to order at 11:35 a.m.

Members Present

Robert L. Moore, Vice Chair
Julie Korenstein
Irene M. Menegas
Matthew D. Roy

Members Absent

Amy B. Dean, Chair

Other Board Members Present

Brian E. Conley
Antonia Hernandez
Richard H. Leib
Melba Muscarolas
Catherine L. Unger
Leslie Wang

4.1 Approval of Minutes

The committee approved the minutes of the September 10, 2001, meeting.

4.2 2002-03 Vocational and Technical Education Act Expenditure Plan

Vice Chancellor Morrow stated that there are four items presented in the agenda that are related, and briefed the committee on those connections. The Board’s Career Ladders Initiative framing document titled, “Ladders of Opportunity,” is currently being used in a variety of advocacy efforts. The action scheduled item, “2002-03 Vocational and Technical Education Act Expenditure Plan,” intersects with the initiative through the Board’s consideration of possible redirection of these funds. The work currently accomplished through statewide VTEA funds already aligns with the Career Ladders Initiative. The other two items with linkages to the Career Ladders Initiative include the Economic Development Expenditure Plan, Action Pending, Item 4.4, and the Fund for Instructional Improvement Ten Percent Set Aside, Action Scheduled Item 9.4.

Morrow noted that The VTEA Expenditure Plan is founded on a state plan built collaboratively by the K-12 and community...
college systems. She explained that the funding distributed to the community colleges is shaped by the federal funding, the secondary and post-secondary distribution of funds, as well as the variables used to count students. This item recommends that the Board approve the Expenditure Plan, as presented.

Additional detail regarding the role of the Statewide Advisory Committees and the Regional Consortia was also provided to the Board. Dean Kimberly Perry briefed the committee regarding Appendix 2, page 3, regarding Partnership Development. She requested that the words “…or establish Statewide” be deleted. In addition, Perry stated that of the total $1.5 million, $1.2 million of VTEA funds are distributed to the 10 regional consortia which are aggregated into 7 distinct projects, $150,000 goes to each of the 10 Statewide Advisory Committees, and this year for 2001-02, $150,000 will be held for Statewide Advisory Committee special projects. Perry distributed a handout to the Board addressing the roles of the statewide advisory committees and the regional consortia and emphasized distinguishing features and differences between the two.

Member Menegas requested that the Board receive the membership composition of the regional consortia and industry-based advisory committees (i.e., faculty, vocational education managers, etc.).

A Board member asked if there was an accurate count of students who enroll for purposes of transfer, and interim vice chancellor Patrick Perry, MIS and Research, responded that the Chancellor’s Office does not currently have the ability to identify the number of community college students who intend to transfer. Morrow added that an effort is currently underway to establish a credible transfer rate recognizing the variety of reasons that students attend the community colleges. Member Hernandez expressed her concerns about recognizing and addressing the direct needs and expectations of community college students. Judith James, Vice Chancellor of Student Services and Special Programs, assured Member Hernandez that later in the Board meeting, she would be addressing many of her concerns and would also provide an update on the status of current efforts to develop capacity for the campuses to implement transfer activities.

Dean Kimberly Perry informed the Board that University of California, Berkeley has been commissioned to complete the Regional Consortia evaluation report previously requested. The report will be provided to the Board as soon as it is finished.

Peggy Moore, chief instructional officer at College of the Siskiyous, presented concerns raised by the CIO Board, including the recommendation to seek additional funding but not to redirect already scarce resources and to conduct an analysis of what existing programs with career ladder emphasis are working.

Donald Averill, chancellor of the San Bernardino Community College District and president of the Association of California Community College Administrators, acknowledged the concerns of Member Hernandez and emphasized his district’s commitment to providing services that focus on assisting the students in achiev-
Committee on Economic Development and Vocational Education
November 13, 2001

4.3 Workforce Development Initiative Implementation Plan

Vice Chancellor Morrow indicated that this item is organized around Chair Dean’s proposed implementation plan, presented to the Board in July and then entered into Consultation. Morrow noted that the field has expressed consistent enthusiasm for the Board policy direction associated with the initiative. However, issues concerning the redirection of funding were raised by the Consultation Council as a result of the following realities: system underfunding, the return of most of the Chancellor’s Office BCPs by the Department of Finance, the fact that all competitively allocated monies are already heavily subscribed, and the necessity to identify systemwide what career ladder practices are in place today, their effectiveness, and possible gaps. This item is founded on advice from the Consultation Council, and recognizes that the Board is eager to advocate for the system and to indicate to the Department of Finance, the Administration, and to the Legislature that the system is already working to implement this initiative utilizing the limited resources currently available. This item also features a revised timeline.

Responding to Member Korenstein’s request for clarification of identification of funding for the initiative, Morrow stated that the recommendation presented in this item would include lines in the table on page 5 reflecting only WIA and VTEA. Member Moore advised that this item is a “revised” Pending Action, from the version previously submitted in September. He also stated that additional discussion is needed between the administration and the Department of Finance. Vice Chair Moore clarified that Chair Dean indicated that her desire is not to put anything on the table that is going to have the appearance of taking funding away from existing programs at this juncture pending the receipt of more data on what is currently taking place. Vice Chancellor Morrow confirmed that the Consultation Council recommended that a study be undertaken to identify current career ladder activities on campuses, and she noted that the WIA funding has been recommended for this purpose.

Hoke Simpson, Academic Senate president, drew the Board’s attention to the paragraph on page 2, calling for the
inventory and assessment of current practices be undertaken. He advocated for this recommendation and against redirection of any funding at this time.

James Comins, Health Occupations Director, ED>Net Health Care Initiative, Sacramento City College, stated that although he supports the Career Ladders Initiative, he has extreme concern about the possible redirection of funding from initiatives already working in the field. Comins distributed a newsletter to the Board highlighting the value of successful activities associated with the Health Occupations program.

Linda Zorn, director of the Butte College Regional Occupational Health Resource Center, briefed the Board on how the Regional Occupational Health Resource Centers are already in alignment with the Career Ladder Initiative. A newsletter distributed emphasized the established partnerships and career ladder activities in conjunction with the occupational education program and institutionalization objectives.

Catherine Swenson, director for Contract Education, briefed the Board on the leveraging of resources of the Economic Development Program for the development and implementation of the various contract education programs. Swenson requested that the Board support the recommendations by staff that redirection of funds not occur at this time.

John Avakian, ED>Net Initiative director for the New Media/Multimedia/Entertainment Initiative, highlighted outcomes of the New Media/Multimedia/Entertainment programs and related student successes funded through the Economic Development program. He confirmed for Member Moore that these programs currently have the flexibility to adjust to employment training demands as a result of the economy.

Bernie Weiss, ED>Net director for the International Trade Initiative, briefed the Board on the responsiveness of the International Trade Programs to the changing needs of business, citing the Governor’s decision to increase trade to Mexico, and utilize the existing structure of the CITDs to implement his program.

Mary Pat Huxley, ED>Net Initiative director for Applied Biological Technologies, distributed handouts to the Board, and emphasized the high cost of the biotechnology programs, the collaboration with career ladder objectives, the trend for students to return for continuing education, and resulting student successes. Huxley stressed the critical demands for these programs by industries, in spite of the economic downturn.

Jeffrey O’Neal, director of the North Valley Mountain Biotechnology Center, highlighted student successes associated with his program through American River College, and emphasized the current programs designed with a career track focus.

Donald Averill, chancellor of the San Bernardino Community College District and president of the Association of California Community College Administrators, encouraged the Board to recognize the career ladders approaches already working
throughout many disciplines in the system and stated that he supports the Academic Senate stand on conducting a full survey.

Kate Clark, vice president of the Academic Senate, urged the Board to utilize the full survey to identify what sort of return is being realized with funding and exactly how many students are being served.

Responding to the mail and public testimony received, the Board requested that, in identifying the successful career ladder focuses of the colleges respective programs, emphasis be placed on how the money is being utilized to prepare students for their next move up in their careers and workforce. Dean Ferrier noted, relative to the economic development program, it is clear that the direct student impact must be shown; she emphasized that the past legislation has not had a student focus. However, the program’s new formative electronic reporting system is much more student oriented and the legislative reauthorization language focuses much more on employees, labor connections, and students.

President Leib acknowledged that it is apparent through this discussion and the volume of mail and public testimony that the career ladders approach exists right now in the community colleges. He also stated that the Board’s goal is not to create a new bureaucracy or redirect funds from existing successful programs, but rather to identify those kinds of programs, expand them to all 108 community colleges, and then advise the Legislature and Administration that the system does have effective programs but that they are underfunded and the system needs more of these in more colleges. President Leib stated that he would like to move and expand this program.

4.4 2002-03 Economic Development Program Expenditure Plan

Vice Chancellor Morrow indicated that this item is a first reading and will return at the January Board for action. It includes two proposed Expenditure Plans. Plan A mirrors the current year expenditure plan for that program. Plan B involved a redirection. The Economic Development Program Advisory Committee has recommended Plan A.

Vice Chancellor Morrow commented on an issue raised by speaker Kate Clark relative to a project concerning nursing admissions. She assured Clark and Member Menegas that there is no intention to get ahead of the Academic Senate’s role in establishing prerequisites. Morrow stated that a full briefing will be provided to the Academic Senate Executive Board and noted that she will follow up with the results of that meeting with Member Menegas and the Board.

Full Board Approval of Action Items

President Leib moved to adopt Item 4.2. The motion was seconded by Member Menegas.

Members present and voting:

Ayes: Conley, Dean, Korenstein, Leib, Menegas, Moore, Muscarolas, Roy, Unger, Wang
Adjournment

Vice Chair Moore adjourned the meeting of the Committee on Economic Development and Vocational Education at 12:30 p.m.