

COTA Monthly Meeting  
Virtual via WebEx  
October 30, 2023

Present: Christy Seawall, David Jones, Katelyn Wilson, Samantha Dickey, Robert Koch, Helen Hale, Phil Bridgmon, Steve, Gavin O'Connor, Robyn Walter, Brooke Lockhart, Lacey Mattheis

Meeting called to order 10:05 by Christy Seawall.

Katelyn moved to approve previous minutes, Phil seconds.

Kara Cahill has left position; Samantha Dickey in attendance to represent MDHEWD.

Status of COTA conference – need Keynote speaker, need presentations, 4 people have registered for the conference. Steve had a question about COTA Conference marketing and Gavin supplied information that it typically is sent out from MDHEWD, but not a great marketing plan. David added that we try to send out information to MACRAO and MACADA, but normally sent out from whoever is working with us from the state. Brooke promoted it at MACRAO; Christy and Ross will promote it at MCCA and MCCA will also be promoting the conference for us.

Robyn asked for clarification on keynote speaker possibilities on who had officially declined. Christy said she will reach out to the potential speakers to find out if they would be interested; but we may need backups. Robyn mentioned that a hot topic is finding the Value of Higher Education; might need to expand to include HS superintendents or staff like the RootED advisors.

Robyn provided information about a speaker at the HLC Assessment institute from the Aspen Institute: [https://highered.aspeninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Beyond-Articulation-Agreements\\_Final.pdf](https://highered.aspeninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Beyond-Articulation-Agreements_Final.pdf)

Karen Solomon has previously done an HLC update, so she may be interested in helping provide a session again. David recommended that we may be interested in a speaker involved with Kansas initiative on Adult Learners. <https://www.kansasregents.org/students/credit-for-prior-learning>

Brought up that we need to reevaluate the makeup of the conference committee because we had trimmed down with Kara's work on the conference planning; but with Kara gone now, Robyn and Katelyn have agreed to help Brooke, Lacey, and Christy with the committee. Call for proposals will be due December 1<sup>st</sup>. Kara had updated a CFP document in Basecamp for review; so we are looking at editing the document to send out. Samantha offered to compile something for review. Our next general meeting is November 20<sup>th</sup>; Samantha will be unable to attend. Conference Committee is going to meet 3pm, Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.

Kara had secured a room block of 40 at the Courtyard by Marriott at a discounted rate; Samantha will find out what information or registration link we need to add to the registration information.

Credit for Prior Learning is the next topic on the agenda. Samantha had uploaded survey results, but we could not open it. Samantha uploaded a new document with results which can be opened. Will take time to review during lunch and come back to it.

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Discussion of COTA membership renewals. David is getting closer to retirement and is going to step away from the committee. Steve is good to renew. Lacey does not have approval to extend, so she is stepping off. Helen has approval to extend from her institution. The two vacancies are both from independent colleges. Recommend to have a 2-year and 3-year term for staggering. Looking at membership renewal terms; there are too many on the same term expiration, so in the 4-year representatives, will juggle 1 for 2025; 1 for 2026; and 2 for 2027. The 2-year reps also need to stagger. 2 will expire in 2026; 2 will expire in 2027.

Finding independent representation might come from one of the Core 42 independent schools. Plan to start recruiting at some point in January perhaps. They may even want to participate in the COTA conference.

Will break for lunch and rejoin on Zoom via link Samantha provided

<https://zoom.us/j/96919219317>

Reconvened at 12:37 on zoom.

During the break, Samantha uploaded a Call for Proposal to Basecamp. Members commented on the form, Samantha made the edits. Gavin moves to approve, Steve seconds approval. This form will be emailed out, on the eduvents website, and COTA website. Will be sent to COTA and distributed to CAO's, Macada, Macrao, RootED advisors; etc.

Samantha also updated term expiration rotations and uploaded the document for review to discuss aligning term rotations within the committee so that only 1/3 of the committee is being renewed at a time instead of more than half. Will table approval of the rotations for everyone to have an opportunity to review.

During the break, everyone was to review the Credit for Prior Learning survey results. Discussion about the results and findings was held. Roberto shared a link for a research grant:

<https://www.nists.org/research-grant>

David Jones shared the Kansas Task Force definition of Credit for Prior Learning: *Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) - A comprehensive term used to describe credit awarded for learning gained outside a traditional postsecondary academic environment. "Prior Learning Assessment" (PLA) and "Prior Learning and Recognition" (PLAR) are also used to describe CPL. CPL involves the evaluation and assessment of an individual's learning obtained through activities such as working, participating in employer training programs, serving in the military, studying independently, completing advanced secondary level coursework, studying open source coursework, volunteering or doing community service. CPL may take the form of postsecondary credit, certification, or advanced standing toward further education or training. Postsecondary level credit is the optimal outcome.*

Discussion about what to do next – compile information and share out information. Potentially share it out at COTA and with Adult for Prior Learning.

Samantha shared the following information: Adult Learner Strategic Plan tactic: Convene a CPL community of practice Other transfer recommendations include: (1) Provide institutional and

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student guidance on CORE 42; (2) Make students opt-out of Reverse Transfer; and (3) Publish transfer data disaggregated by age and race

David, Helen, Steve, and Gavin – will work to compile the received survey results prior to the next COTA meeting. Then next steps can be further discussed.

Next item on the agenda is to review the COTA Standards and Procedures drafted by Kara before she left. We will table this until the next meeting, review it, bring comments back for the next meeting or in Basecamp.

Gavin moves to adjourn meeting, Steve seconds adjournment. Motion carries. Adjourned at 1:36pm