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NPWR ADVISORY COMMITTEE
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JOSE MARTINEZ
CHAIR

PUBLIC ENTITY:	Office of Workforce Innovation (OWINN) – P-20W Research Data System Advisory Committee (NPWR)
DATE AND TIME:	Friday, July 12, 2024, at 10:00 AM
LOCATION:	OWINN Office 1 Harrah's Court, 3 rd Floor Las Vegas, NV 89119
TELECONFERENCE:	Public access information Phone Line: 1 669 444 9171 Meeting ID: 896 4281 4315 Passcode: 699385 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89642814315?pwd=ZPpZUqXMotlgfTzuKE1b6QT5HVFcSV.1

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: José Martinez, Chair
Nancy Olsen, Vice Chair
Kristen Dwyer
Krista Marshall
Brandon Torres
Christopher Franklin
Michael Yoder
Toni Giddens

Members Absent: Molly Lennon

Also Present: Jackie Fernandes, Arianna Florence, Craig Moebus

1. Call to Order and Welcome

Chair Martinez called the meeting to order on July 12, 2024, with all members present with the exception of Molly Lennon.

2. and 3. Roll Call, Confirmation, and Verification

Kristen Dwyer called roll, confirmed posting and verified quorum.

4. Information Only – Public Comment – None.

5. *For Possible Action – NPWR Meeting Minutes 4/12/2024

Chair Martinez called for a motion to approve. It was moved by **Toni Giddens** to approve and seconded by **Christopher Franklin**. The motion carried.

6. Discussion/Information Only – NPWR Updates:

a. Research Grants

NPWR Manager **Kristen Dwyer** provided updates on the current NPWR Research Grants.

Kristen Dwyer reported that the office is receiving the final reports from the current research grants. With researcher forums being held in December, one at UNR and another at UNLV, to review the progress. There has been encouraging feedback on the projects so far.

Funding from the Governor's reserve is already set for another round of projects this fall, with plans to involve new partners like NDOT. The next round of funded projects will be announced at the upcoming meeting, and all final reports from the current grants will be shared with everyone.

Nancy Olsen asked when the application for the research grants for this next year would be going out.

Kristen Dwyer responded that the goal is to have everything ready by early September. She'll aim to get it out by August, if possible, but due to the fiscal year closing and the funds coming from the Governor's reserve through DETR, it might take some time. The target is to have everything finalized by September at the latest.

Nancy Olsen then followed up by asking if there was any idea of what the maximum dollar amount for one research grant would be.

Kristen Dwyer shared that they plan to set a maximum funding limit of \$50,000 for the upcoming round, similar to what worked well previously. Although there is currently a bit less funding allocated, there's hope that additional funds might become available, as happened last year. They are especially encouraging university-based research entities to involve students, particularly if they receive larger funding amounts, while external research entities have more flexibility in this regard.

7. Discussion/Information Only – OWINN Updates

- a. Data Sharing Agreement
- b. Funding

Kristen Dwyer started by thanking her colleague Jackie for stepping in while she was on leave and doing an excellent job. She provided updates on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):

- Final adjustments are being made with some colleagues.
- Molly Lennon from the DMV couldn't attend today's meeting but is working with the contracts office to finalize things. Kristen and Jackie have met with the DMV to ensure the process moves forward.
- There are plans to meet with Mike Yoder from DHS to discuss any final updates.
- The aim is to finalize everything within the next month, allowing for the onboarding of new data, especially from NDOT, once the process is fully executed.

She went on to mention some funding opportunities, that the office has been contacted by UNR for a major tech hub project funded through the EDA, with a significant portion of the funding allocated for workforce development. This five-year grant includes plans for new dashboards to support employers. While the budget was adjusted, they're waiting for final details from UNR and will likely issue an RFP (Request for Proposal) since the grant requires opening the project to bids. Despite some limitations, this grant offers great opportunities for the state and can be expanded with other funding sources.

In addition to the funding, she shared the following updates on budget planning as they prepare for the upcoming legislative session:

- **Strategic Plan Enhancements:** The budget is being built to include the enhancements discussed in the strategic plan, including contracts with NDE, DETR, and NG to support personnel needs.
- **Data Integration Specialist:** They are working to hire a contractor for a data integration specialist role to ensure cohesive data management across the Empower system, benefiting both researchers and stakeholders.
- **Travel Funding:** She's also trying to include travel funding for the Chair and Vice Chair, which hasn't been available before, to encourage more collaboration.
- **Next Steps:** More details will be shared in the next meeting once the final budget submission is confirmed. Kristen will provide updates on what is officially included in the budget bill.

8. Discussion/Informational Only – Partner Activities Updates

Nancy Olsen updated the committee on a research project with the American Institutes for Research, focused on analyzing adult education data and income using the Empower platform for longitudinal data. They are excited about the results and hope to share positive outcomes widely if they turn out as expected.

Additionally, she included that they are moving forward with a contract amendment to create an interface between EmployNV and the adult education system. This effort, along with ongoing work with Title I and Title III in NPWR, aims to establish a true common intake and a "no wrong door" approach for participants.

Chair Martinez called for further updates from the group.

Toni Giddens requested an update from Kristen Dwyer on the requirements and data pieces needed. She mentioned that once she receives this information, she can finalize the data-sharing agreement with the Department of Labor (DOL) to start providing apprenticeship data.

Kristen Dwyer acknowledged Toni Giddens' reminder and agreed to check on the status of the data requirements. She assured her that she and Jackie would reach out soon to finalize everything so that Ms. Giddens can get the necessary information by next week.

9. Discussion/Informational Only – Program Activities Updates

- a. IMR
- b. Cloud Migration
- c. Data Dashboard

Craig Moebus began with IMR (Interagency Matching Report) and the last round being completed, which is a quarterly event. The updated data from partners has been successfully integrated into the system. However, there were issues with the DETR (Department of Employment, Training, and Rehabilitation) data, specifically with matching, which prevented the inclusion of DETR wage data in the current match. The most recent wage data available is still from 2023.

He reached out to the DETR technical team to schedule a meeting for next week to discuss the status of correcting this data, as the updated information is needed for the next IMR run at the beginning of next month. Since many reports rely on DETR data, getting this resolved is crucial.

He discussed the cloud migration approval received from all stakeholders to migrate the old legacy on-premise reports to Azure Cloud. The data migration is complete, and the data has been updated. Next, work will be done to migrate the Azure Power BI reports, which is expected to be in production by the end of the month.

This is an exciting enhancement for the program, as the new reports are more modern, responsive, and faster. Stakeholders who have reviewed the reports have expressed positive feedback and look forward to seeing the full rollout.

Finally, Mr. Moebus informed the committee that they are developing a refreshed research portal and plan to start demos and release it into the NPWR production by the end of the year, which is exciting as it will modernize research capabilities.

Furthermore, PIRL data has been successfully onboarded and is now accessible through the system. Many members received emails about the final testing, which was a significant effort. Thanks to DETR and Krista for their hard work in overcoming various challenges. PIRL data, related to WIOA Titles I, II, and III, is now available for use in the NPWR system, marking an important advancement.

Kristen Dwyer wanted to know as she is making updates, with the PIRL data would we be able to move forward with the production of the dashboard for the Governors Workforce Development Board.

Craig Moebus explained to create the public-facing report, they would need to meet with the data stakeholders at DETR, including Krista and David, to discuss and define the requirements. Once they can scope those requirements with the WIOA stakeholders, they can start delivering the final report that will be publicly available.

Nancy Olsen questioned Craig Moebus to confirm with the PIRL data now available, should they be able to match it with adult education data and Title I and Title III data to determine co-enrollments this year?

Craig Moebus clarified with Nancy Olsen whether she was looking just to see the records from her population that also exist in the PIRL.

Nancy Olsen confirmed yes, that was what she wanted.

Craig Moebus agreed that they can get those numbers, assuming to know which specific records they are. Explaining with the PIRL data now onboarded, they can run a query and pull the information. However, it should be noted that the pearl data received is not very large and is believed to contain around 1,000 records. It's a relatively small population, similar to the adult education population, which is also quite small. He cautioned that he was not sure what numbers Nancy Olsen was expecting, but to keep in mind that the populations are limited.

Nancy Olsen replied that she wouldn't expect a large number for the match either. However, federally, they report co-enrollment between titles, and this is the first time they have a reliable method for accurately capturing that co-enrollment. She is excited to do this, as they have previously reported less than 1% co-enrollment. This new approach might increase that figure to around 3%.

Craig Moebus requested to meet with Arianna Florence sometime next week.

Arianna Florence confirmed receiving his message about the meeting next week and will respond that they are unavailable then. However, they are free the following week and can meet this coming week. Although they have some interviews scheduled, but there should be a few open slots to discuss getting together.

Chair Martinez took the time to comment on the IMR and data dashboards. Stating that he wanted to remind his partners that, as they work to provide accessible data for this year's data match, they have three legislatively mandated reports due to the Director of LCB on February 1. These reports depend on the data match results for this year. He urged all partners to ensure that all the data is ready for the data match by the end of this month. Since they rely on this data to update the reports and demonstrate the progress with SLDS to LCB.

10. Information Only – Second Public Comment(s) – None.

11. Adjournment

Chair Martinez adjourned the meeting.