# Strong Workforce Program Implementation

**Career Navigation:**
G. Dowden, Cuyamaca
C. Estrada-Howell, SD Miramar
K. McMackin, Region

**K14 Career Pathways Committees**

**Adult Education/Noncredit:**
U. Maschke, East Region Adult
K. Henwood, SDCCE
J. Stark, Region

**Credit for Prior Learning:**
B. Gamboa, MiraCosta
N. Roe, Palomar
, Region

**Early College Credit:**
M. Stevens, Region
L. Wisdom, Region

**Rising Scholars Region X:**
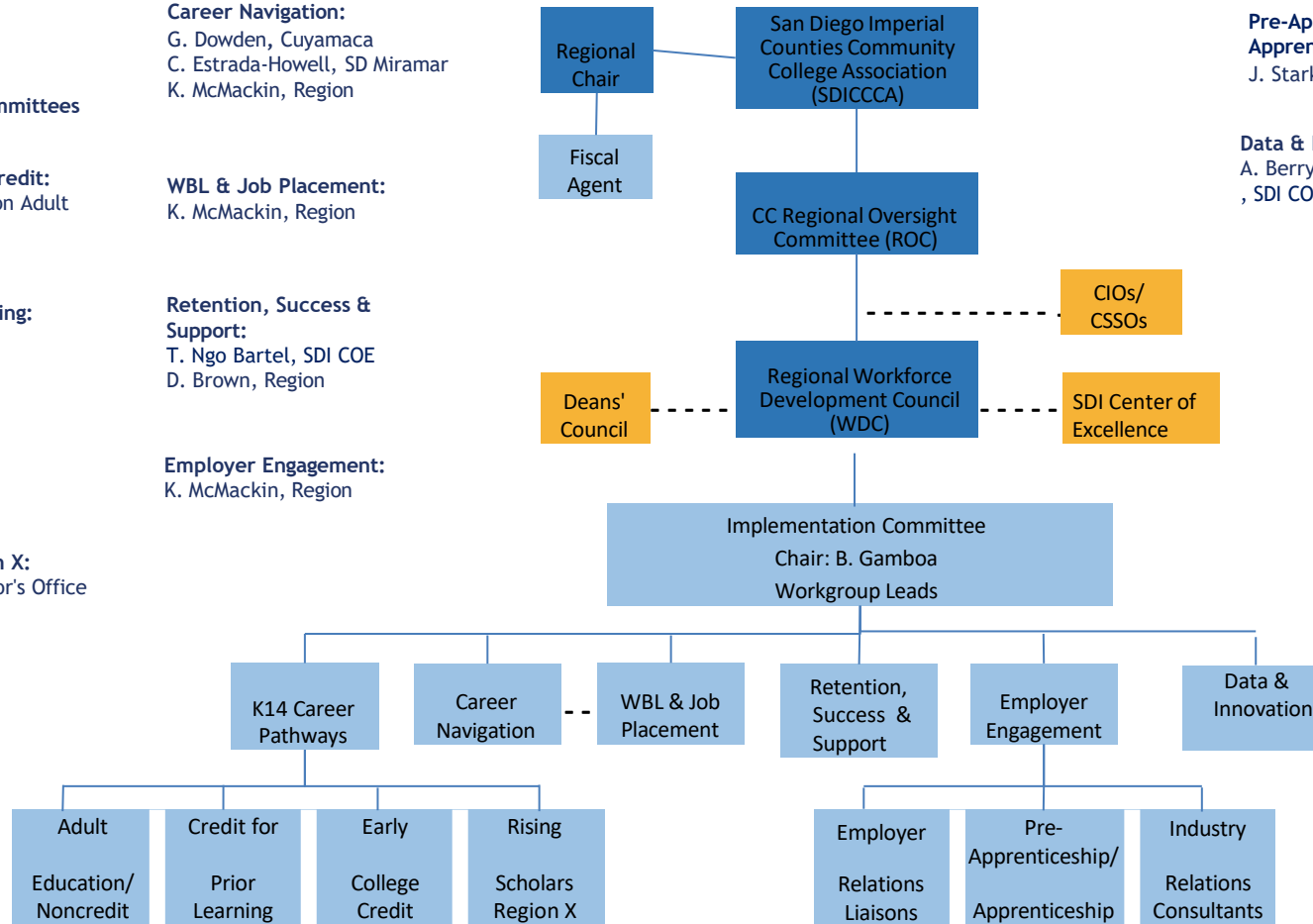C. Esquibias, Chancellor's Office
S. Bradley, Region

**WBL & Job Placement:**
K. McMackin, Region

**Retention, Success & Support:**
T. Ngo Bartel, SDI COE
D. Brown, Region

**Employer Engagement:**
K. McMackin, Region

**Pre-Apprenticeship/ Apprenticeship:**
J. Stark, Region

**Data & Innovation:**
A. Berry, SD Mesa
, SDI COE



Regional Chair

San Diego Imperial Counties Community College Association (SDICCCA)

Fiscal Agent

CC Regional Oversight Committee (ROC)

CIOs/ CSSOs

Deans' Council

Regional Workforce Development Council (WDC)

SDI Center of Excellence

Implementation Committee
Chair: B. Gamboa
Workgroup Leads

K14 Career Pathways — Career Navigation — WBL & Job Placement — Retention, Success & Support — Employer Engagement — Data & Innovation

Adult Education/ Noncredit — Credit for Prior Learning — Early College Credit — Rising Scholars Region X

Employer Relations Liaisons — Pre-Apprenticeship/ Apprenticeship — Industry Relations Consultants

## Q1: Are there additional priorities the region should support?

## If so, which ones?

I am seeing that maybe we need a shift in priorities where the Region has more of a voice at the state level to drive policies instead of being driven by them.

The alignment of industry recognized credentials within priority 3 above.

Something around coordinating efforts in priority sectors--not common projects, but supporting college efforts in developing priority sector projects.

No

The identified priorities cover all the bases.

"No? Maybe just tweaks within priorities?

Maybe align priorities with any metrics or goals the region is held accountable for - WBL? Do we need a specific goal around increasing wages and getting students jobs?"

## REGIONAL PRIORITIES

1. To better prepare the region's prospective students through outreach, alignment, and acceleration

2. To better onboard and support students in their education and prepare them for the workforce

3. To include employers in students' preparation for the workforce by providing collaborative opportunities through aligned curricula, career exploration, WBL experiences, and job placement toward increasing socioeconomic mobility

4. To ensure that colleges have data-based resources to make informed programmatic decisions that equitably benefit students while supporting regional continuous improvement

5. To increase awareness of the San Diego and Imperial community colleges and Career Education programs

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## Q2: Given the uncertainty of the Strong Workforce funding, are there any priorities the region should no longer support, at this time? If so, which ones?

Increasing awareness

#2, #4, #5

Priority 5 above could be absorbed by individual college efforts.

1 and 5 can be combined. I also don't like the better prepare prospective students. We should be focused on improving the colleges for the prospective students. Number 3 and 4 are the biggest priority. Number 2 still is fully funded under guided pathways and SEA efforts.

Strong Workforce Faculty Institute

I would say that local marketing of CE programs is a better investment that regional efforts.

I think the priorities are still relevant, we just may need to tone down funded activities in certain areas

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## Q3: In addition to our regional priorities, we support the colleges through our Workgroups, Communities of Practice (COPs), and projects. Are there any new workgroups, COPs, or projects we should support? If so, which ones?

Increased alignment between the workgroups and/or CoPs to the funded projects could help strengthen the work and increase insight into project impacts, outcomes, etc. I'm hesitant to add areas of work, but I am curious about 1) ensuring all workgroups are focused on improving CC student success 2) exploring what areas we are aware of that are missing - equity projects? adult learners within credit college programs?

No - and I think we need to evaluate the effectiveness of the current COPs

No

Developing pathways across credit, noncredit, and not-for-credit

None at this time.

No

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# Q4: Do you recommend changes to any existing workgroups? If so, which workgroup and what changes?

I am unsure, as I am detached from this work.  I would like a discussion at Dean's regarding all the workgroups and evaluation of them, particularly in comparison of possible revised goals and funding.

No

K-12 pathways needs better direction and more prescriptive approaches. K12 SWP must be tied to the CC and LMI or the project isn't funded. Also, Case management still hasn't been adopted regionally.

Career Navigation - stop grants and work as a community

I have lost track of the existing workgroups so this is hard to answer.

Increased alignment between the workgroups and/or CoPs to the funded projects could help strengthen the work and increase insight into project impacts, outcomes, etc. I think we may want to re-consider workgroup leadership, representation, and focus across the board. Let the COE run the data and research group(s)

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# Q5: Are there additional areas or initiatives the Region should support? If so, which ones?

Sector based projects

Again - more advocacy/influence at the state level?  Maybe we need to develop our own bills to present to our representatives?

Advocacy - we need more help around advocating for protecting investments in CTE and increasing investments in CTE Regional Wage goal - set a regional wage goal and/or wage goes by district - help us see what change (where the gap is) is needed. Senior leadership buy in- related to advocacy; hold senior leadership meetings with each college on a recurring routine regular basis; use these to advocate, provide talking points, etc. and to review funded projects, outcomes, and any issues. Showcase funded projects - increase visibility of the work that is being funded Require branding - help increase visibility of what is supported by regional funds. Establish Regional data set. Fund the COE to build out more fast facts (abbreviated insights) to their reports and to draw conclusions across reports"

None at this time.                                    Competency based education?

Apprenticeship grants including staff              No

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# Q6: Are there any areas or initiatives we should stop supporting? If so, which ones?

I think, due to budget, we need to completely pull back on marketing and data and rethink, K-12.

We had challenges in recruiting faculty for the faculty institutes. Maybe time to reconsider initiative.

I'd say regional marketing and large scale events.

This is so hard! I think moving away funding and staff time that focuses on K12 was a great move; I'm worried that we may need to move away from adult ed - while I love adult ed and see the benefits of regional coordination - can we really justify using SWP in this way? how is it helping the community colleges?

SWFI                    Marketing                    Faculty institutes and marketing

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# Q7: Do you have any additional suggestions or comments?

WBL, JPCM, Career Navigation, employer engagement are essential and needed.

It would be good to have an in-person planning meeting.

Reconsider progress reports and collection of data. Use data that has been collected - show the colleges how you are using it; utilized collected data to inform a regional data set or regional dashboard; don't collect data and information that isn't going to be used. Instead of requiring written reports outside of NOVA, either expand regional team access to the NOVA narratives (and require certain elements to be addressed in those narratives) or consider dedicating a regional team member to meet with each college to review progress, work completed, challenges faced, etc. - hold college meetings across all funded projects. Reconsider how best to ""deal"" with colleges that don't meet requirements, aren't spending, etc. - develop strategies specifically for those colleges"

No               None               No               None at this time.

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