Regional Oversight Committee
Wednesday, January 28, 2026
3:30-4:30pm
Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Erica Balakian, Danene Brown, Sally Cox, Barbara Gallego, Brett Houser, Jennifer Lewis, Wes Lundburg, Tina Ngo Bartel, Will Olmstead, Marciano Perez, Jr., Tina Recalde, Sharon Sampson, Christina Sharp, Michael Speyrer, Susan Topham

Regional Staff: Stephanie Bradley

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes from November 19, 2025
   - Motion to approve by M. Speyrer, second by B. Gallego, **unanimously minutes approved**

3. T. Ngo Bartel shared update on Center of Excellence
   - Comprehensive Regional Needs Assessment (CRNA) and Chancellor's Office CLNA Reporting Framework
     - T. Ngo Bartel provided an overview of newly developed resources aligned to the Chancellor's Office *Perkins V Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment Reporting Framework*, including:
       - Comprehensive Regional Needs Assessment - structured to match the Chancellor's Office framework to allow colleges to copy/paste directly into required sections
         a. COE will be presenting on the CRNA at the March WDC.
       - A statewide COE tool: Perkins Qualifying Occupations was recently update. If you filter by high wage and high demand, it will give you a list of ~160 occupations (training) that would qualify for Perkins funding.
     - A regional Perkins Core Indicators dashboard using Chancellor's Office data compiled by the COE and organized by college and TOP code. The dashboard allows users to view each of the four Perkins core performance indicators.
     - Thanks was expressed by the group to the COE for these new resources.
   - Research Summit and Research Hub
     - T. Ngo Bartel reported on the first annual Research Summit held at Miramar College, attended by 300+ RSVPs, showcasing regional work (behavioral health careers, housing affordability, talent pipeline/EDC work, etc.).
     - She also announced the launch of the San Diego & Imperial (SDI) Research Hub, a live, continuously updated online repository consolidating regional public reports sortable by topic (e.g., workforce development, economic development, education, public health). Members were invited to submit additional reports to include.
   - Colleges' Economic Impact Reports from Lightcast
     - Lightcast requested an extension due to incomplete and ongoing college data collection.
       - Expected timeline: draft reports mid-to-late February; final reports March (approx. 1.5-month delay).
   - Adult Learner Institute Advisory Group Recap
     - An outline of structure and goals of the upcoming Adult Learner Institute were shared, including:
       - Focus: improving services for adult learners (25+; managing multiple responsibilities).
       - Format parallels prior Counselor & Faculty Institutes.
       - October 2026: kickoff "Capacity Building Summit."

- Monthly team meetings: college cross-functional teams reflecting on prompts connected to the Adult Learner Study findings.
- Late April/early May 2027: wrap-up event to include drafting policy findings and identify areas our colleges need legislative help.
- Regional SWP RFA available for $50,00 to support participation.

- S. Cox expressed strong support for the adult learner work. She noted the impact of prior institutes (Faculty & Counselor) is evident across colleges, as seen during her attendance at Grossmont College's last Convocation**.**

4. Regional Updates given by D. Brown
   - Chancellor's Office Regional Convening – December 4th and 5th
     - D. Brown thanked members for attending the December and encouraged submission of feedback to the Chancellor's Office for the next convening (2027).
       - Vision 2030 Regional Convening Session Evaluation Form
   - Round 10 RFAs
     - Shared with the group that RFAs will be released end of next month (Feb 2026), including:
       - Acceleration Investment: increased from $75,000 to $80,000 (rationale addressed in CTE researchers update).
       - Building Capacity for Adult Learners: $50,000.
       - Job Placement/Case Management Manager: $175,000 (continuing; supported for multiple rounds).
       - Sector Investments: Up to $125,000 (emerging industries focus).
       - Work-Based Learning Coordinator: $80,000 (continuing; supported for multiple rounds).
   - CTE Researchers Options
     - CTE Researchers – Funding Continuation Options
       - D. Brown revisited prior discussion that regional funding for CTE researchers ends June 30, 2026. Two options were presented to support continuation:
         1. Colleges may use $80,000 Acceleration RFA funds to support a local researcher.
         2. Alternatively, colleges may direct their $80,000 Acceleration RFA funds to the COE to host the researcher; however, colleges would also be responsible for approximately $50,000 in benefits costs per researcher.
       - Additional strategies discussed
         a. Shared researchers across districts/colleges to reduce cost burden.
         b. Reduced hours (less than 40 hours/week) for hosted researchers if full-time support is not needed.
     - SWP Annual Plan
       - Shared that the Annual Plan was submitted to the Chancellor's Office ahead of the January 31 deadline. Noted content was unchanged from prior presentations, but formatting/graphics were improved through WestEd.
         a. W. Lundburg highlighted the plan's Vision 2030 crosswalk as a strength of the report.
       - The Strong Workforce Annual Plan will begin a new four-year cycle, with a full plan in the first year and annual updates thereafter. Upcoming requirements, including alignment with a new Regional Consortium RFA, will be discussed at a future meeting.

The Regional Consortium Collaboration & Coordination RFA was submitted in December, with awards expected in February.

5. 2025-2026 ROC Membership
    - A vacancy was noted – D. Brown reported a technical issue related to the Past WDC Chair role due to Al's retirement (December) as the region does not currently have another PAST WDC Chair. She will follow up with W. Lundburg and S. Cooke (ROC C0-Chairs) to explore whether SDICCCA would approve an alternate selection (e.g., another lead CTE dean).
    - W. Lundburg shared a transparency note: due to Tina Recalde's interim presidency at Palomar College, leadership consulted on whether she should continue in her current role; for continuity, the group supported her continued participation, pending CEO discussion.

Next Meeting: March 25, 2026 3:30pm (virtual)
ROC Meeting Calendar