Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and Lumina Foundation for Education

Tuning Texas

Sheraton Austin Hotel
701 E. 11th Street, Austin, Texas
February 25, 2010
10 a.m. to Noon
(Hosted Luncheon 12:05 p.m. – 1 p.m.)

EMPLOYER BRIEFING

Overview: Tuning is the faculty-led process of "harmonizing" higher education programs and degrees. It involves creating a framework that establishes clear learning expectations for students in each subject area while balancing the need among programs to retain their academic autonomy and flexibility. The objective is not to standardize programs offered by different institutions but to better establish the quality and relevance of degrees in various academic disciplines. (Source: Lumina Foundation for Education)

10:00 a.m. **Welcome and Introductions**
Raymund Paredes, Texas Commissioner of Higher Education
Kevin Corcoran, Program Director, Lumina Foundation for Education

10:15 a.m. **Brief Overview of the Learning Year in Texas**
Kevin Lemoine, Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Research, THECB

10:20 a.m. **Brief Overview of the Productivity Grant in Texas**
David Gardner, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Planning and Policy, THECB

10:25 p.m. **History of Tuning USA**
Kevin Corcoran, Program Director, Lumina Foundation for Education
William Evenson, Consultant to the Utah State Board of Regents

- Lumina's interest in high-quality degrees
- Tuning's role in sharpening the focus on what students must know, understand, and be able to do.
- Pilot projects in Minnesota, Utah, and Indiana (what we have learned)
- Video summarizing Tuning projects
- Tuning disciplines in Texas

11:00 a.m. **The Process and Benefits of Tuning**
Marcus Kolb, Program Officer, Lumina Foundation for Education
Tim Birtwistle, Emeritus Professor of Law and Policy of Higher Education, Leeds Law School, United Kingdom

- Overview of the Tuning process
- Transparency in communicating with education stakeholders – prospective students, parents, faculty, employers, and policy makers
- How Tuning can make implicit expectations explicit and foster accountability
- Active learning outcomes
- Survey of students, alumni and business leaders

11:30 a.m. **Questions and Answers**
All meeting participants

Noon **Meeting Adjourns**