Negotiators:

Some thoughts from Sandra Kinney, State Higher Education Officers Community of Interest, on the material previously provided by Della Justice and Libby DeBlasio

"Hello Chip. I've reviewed the comments by Della Justice and Libby DeBlasio regarding proposed definitions and had some major concerns. I agree with much of what they have stated, however, as someone who provides the data, there are some technical issues that create problems with the recommendations.

Although I agree we need a definition and well-defined metrics for job placement, the following definition, "Job Placement means within 180 days of completion/graduation the student has been employed for at least 13 weeks with the employer in a full-time paid position in the field or related field of study," will negatively impact some programs. Allied Health programs, especially nursing require that students take a Board of Nursing test. Depending on the term these students graduate and when the nursing board has scheduled board tests, it may often be close to 180 days when the student is able to work in field.

Part (3) is also problematic at the institutional level. I am particularly concerned with this part of the proposed definition for job placement "completer/graduate attests in his/her own handwriting at the time of enrolling in the program and upon completion of the program." This forces undue burden for the institution at the collection level and provides additional challenges at the reporting level. Smaller institutions will be challenged to meet this requirement.

Thanks to Della and Libby for beginning great dialogue on these definitions."