**Research and Planning Commission**

**Accountability and Quality Measures**

**Name of Accountability/Quality Program:**

Degree Qualifications Profile

**Authors/Sponsors/Funders, etc.:**

Lumina Foundation for Education

**URL:**

<http://degreeprofile.org/>

**Overview:**

The Degree Qualifications Profile is a framework that illustrates what students should be expected to know and be able to do after earning regardless of major or specialization. The profile can be adapted to any level of higher education. The Profile focuses on five learning outcomes and a graphic representation called the “spiderweb” is used to depict this model.

**Specific Measures in Program:**

The five learning outcomes are defined as follows:

1. **Applied learning** is used by students to demonstrate what they can do with what they know.
2. **Intellectual skills** are used by students to think critically and analytically about what they learn, broadening their individual perspectives and experiences.
3. **Specialized knowledge** is the knowledge students demonstrate about their individual fields of study.
4. **Broad knowledge** transcends the typical boundaries of student’s first two years of higher education, and encompasses all learning in broad areas through multiple degree levels.
5. **Civic learning** is that which enables students to respond to social, environmental and economic challenges at local, national and global levels.

A more in-depth discussion of the Profile is available at <http://degreeprofile.org/resources.php/> where there is a 29-page publication authored by Cliff Adelman, Peter Ewell, and others. There is also a 6-page executive summary which is attached to this document.

**Impact/Implications for Washington Community & Technical Colleges:**

The website indicates that the Profile is being beta tested; however, there is no information about results. Thus far I am unaware of any Washington community colleges being involved with the development or beta testing of the Degree Qualifications Profile, or any discussion at the state level about using this as a measurement tool.