

MONTHLY REPORT

Dean of Instruction
Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson
January 30, 2012

Accomplishments:

- Finished Fall 2011 semester and collected final grades
- Presented at the new faculty orientation
- Presented at Spring 2012 faculty meeting
- Presented at Arizona Town Hall – Yuma Outreach
- Presented to faculty in Quartzsite and Parker
- Facilitated debrief on January 6th faculty meeting
- Met with Datatel representatives
- Started up Spring 2012 semester

Business and Liberal Arts

Christina Hawkey

- It was nice to see everyone at our Start Up Meetings. I always enjoy chatting with our associate faculty. BLAD is off to a great start!
- Our Field to Feast lunches are under way. We feed 60 people each Wednesday and Thursday. This is part of our partnership with the Yuma Visitors Bureau and the University of Arizona.
- I attended an AWC Foundation Board Meeting. We are planning the Celebration of Scholarship event which will be held on March 8.
- I met with a students, staff from SMAG, and staff from UA about the possibility of a community garden on campus. We are moving forward with this great sustainability project.
- Load sheets are done!

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Christopher Barker

- Attended the Departmental Leadership meeting, BLAD meeting, Violence Prevention meeting, Datatel meetings, and the Lead Faculty meeting.
- Facilitated the Social Sciences Spring '12 Start-up Meeting.
- Completed the Fall '12 and Summer '12 Social Science schedules.
- Began preparing for my presentation on Russian Philosophy at the '12 Russian Symposium.

Lindette Lent

- My PSY 290 students are completing a real world laboratory in the stopping behavior of residents and visitor at area stop signs. Should be interesting to say the least!

Aryca Arizaga-Marron

- Accepted to present at the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) 103rd Annual Conference & Expo in Indianapolis, Indiana June 2012
- Invited by Dr. Angela Taylor, University of Arizona (Chair of Family Studies and Human Development Norton School of Family and Consumer Sciences) to co-author a paper for submission to the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) conference in Phoenix

- Attended the Writing Curriculum Committee meeting on 01/05/12
- Attended the inaugural University of Arizona (Yuma) staff meeting on 01/13/12

Monica Ketchum

- On January 17 & 18, Charlie Minn presented a segment of his documentary, “8 Murders a Day” and discussed the situation on Ciudad Juarez with my History of Mexico class in San Luis, as well as my US History from 1865 classes. It was a great learning experience for the both my students and Mr. Minn, particularly during the Q & A session, as they learned about his motives and perspective on Juarez and the drug war and he gained insight into our own border community.
- On January 21, I organized and participated in a rally at the Calexico downtown POE to raise awareness about human trafficking in our region in commemoration of National Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Month. News coverage of the event aired locally as well as on Univision’s national news.

<http://titancast.titantv.com/p/kyma/s/Making-A-Difference-Monica-Ketchum/1ABX2XAH.aspx>

Dubia Zaragoza

- I borrowed an idea that Lindette shared with us last semester for my PSY 101 class in San Luis. I kicked off the semester with the chapter on Motivation and Emotion. After teaching the concepts for the first half of the class, I had guest speakers come and share their stories about what kept them motivated to get an education. All three speakers are former students from San Luis who have now completed their Masters degrees, and have successful careers despite the obstacles they encountered. Our guest speakers were great and the students were very attentive and engaged. My hope is that when they feel like quitting, they may remember some of these stories of people who struggled just like them, but were able find the motivation and the courage to work hard for their dreams.

CDLL

Alison Keough

- For the Month of January
 - 18 students utilized the CDLL to complete classroom assignments and volunteer hours for classes. The students are enrolled in ECE, EDU, EPS, FAS, ESL, NTR, and NUR courses.
 - 9 Parents visited the CDLL for observation, play or feeding
 - 2 Community members visited the CDLL
- Alma Barrandey participated in the Bias Review Conference for the Arizona Educator proficiency Assessments (AEPA) Program.
- Alma Barrandey has continued to work with the Professional Development Group funded by First Things First, they have hosted a Creative Curriculum Training for local ECE educators using the CDLL as the model and conducting the training on site. They have also hosted a Full Day conference focusing on Infant and Toddler Care that was conducted in the Dr Schoening Conference Room on Saturday January 20 with approximately 150 participants.
- The CDLL is fully enrolled and Billing is complete. Receipts are being collected.
- The CDLL has 3 ECE Internship students and one NAU student teacher.

Christina Hawkey

- I have been meeting with faculty. It has been very enjoyable to spend some time with the full time faculty and go over their goals for the upcoming semester.
- I am very impressed with the dedication of our faculty. They are an impressive group.
- I presented at NAFO on Syllabus and Course Outlines.

- I have been reading research on First Year Experience curriculum.
- I am attending the AWC Foundation Board meeting today.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Christopher Barker

- Completed & submitted Fall '11 final grades.
- Completed initial submission of the Fall '12 grid.
- Submitted the '11-'12 Learning Outcomes form.
- Facilitated the annual Social Sciences Department budget.
- Attended Flip the Switch, the Reception/ Technology Forum & bus tour of the solar panels, Budget Training, Lead Faculty monthly meeting, and the Holiday Luncheon.

Monica Ketchum

- I had the pleasure of attending a special breakfast on Sunday, November 20 commemorating the 101st Anniversary of the Mexican Revolution. Hosted by the Mexican Consul, Gina Andrea Blackledge Cruz, the event honored women in the Mexican Revolution and women leaders in the Mexican communities of the Mexicali and Imperial valleys and included a program built around the significance of the **Rebozo**, a Mexican garment used as a shawl, scarf or wrap, in Mexican history. Maricarmen Favila had models show off her collection of rebozos from various periods and regions of Mexico, focusing on the revolution era.
- http://articles.ivpressonline.com/2011-11-21/consulate-honors_30427218
- Also, coming soon to Western Voice Radio, a history segment! I will be working with Michelle Faust to produce some spots highlighting local history. I'll be recording the first segments in December to air beginning in January 2012, so stay tuned :-)

Melissa Behunin

- This month we had a fundraiser for the GSA4= that went very well! The Art War not only raised funds for the club, it was a great stress relief! One student even said that it was the first time in weeks they forgot about their worries and just had fun.

Lindette Lent

- I was published in the Yuma Sun.
- My research methods classes are running experiments in taste perception and "juiciness". Specifically how do we perceive juicy and what are the requirements for "juiciness" to be perceived.

WELLNESS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Francisco Aguilar

- I and 4 of my karate students are going to Athens Texas for a tuite karate camp from December 9-11, we depart on December 8. This is all out of pocket expense.

HOSPITALITY SERVICES

Ken Kuntzelman

- International students worked with Bob Nidiffer and Sheranne Dampier to prepare a Vietnamese Plate for a club fundraiser at Family Night. The club students and class students worked together and learned from each other and it was a huge success.

BUSINESS AND CIS

Mary Sue Depuy/Michelle Sims

- The BIG issue for Econ this month is the successful completion of another Economics Forum.

This forum attracted approximately 110 Economics students for a discussion with community business leaders and AWC/NAU economics faculty of current micro- and macro-economic issues of interest to students. The names of our panelists are as follows:

- Dr. Alex Steenstra, Master of Administration and Bachelor of Business Coordinator, NAU-Yuma
 - Bill Gresser, Owner, Papasan Rice Bowl
 - Ken Rosevear, Executive Director, Yuma County Chamber of Commerce
 - Mary Sue Depuy, Professor of Economics, AWC
 - Patrick Cunningham, Professor of Business, AWC
 - Pat Walz, CEO, Yuma Regional Medical Center
 - Russ Clark, Owner, Napa Auto Parts and Host of *Live and Local with Russ Clark*, KBLU Radio
 - Terry Frydenlund, President and CEO, First Bank Yuma
 - Michelle Sims, Professor of Business, AWC
- Other than that, classes were held, finals done, and grades submitted.

Distance Education

January has been a busy month in the Distance Education Office. First, there have been moves and remodeling. All of the ITN control rooms have been converted to offices, since the operator stations have been moved to the back of the classrooms for, among other things, better interaction between teacher and operator. Our department had to move, prepare for the re-carpeting and be ready to better serve students and faculty. Nick in particular has been moved into an office space which is being set-up for improved one-on-one training with faculty. This will be a vast improvement for the many people who seek his input as they build and refine their courses.

We have devoted energy to getting the Title V grant going at full steam including reviewing applicants, working with the English faculty who have agreed to serve as faculty developers, and coordinating efforts with Technology Services.

The semester start up has been smooth with very few problems or issues. Online course offerings continue to grow albeit at a slower rate to reflect the college's enrollment trends.

Our pilot with Yuma County Development services will draw to a close this month and we hope to be ready to roll out the program to a larger audience. Responses from the pilot participants have been overwhelmingly positive including: "I thought the whole program worked well. It was user friendly enough even for me. The questions were very good." And "I can honestly say that this is the best certification program I have seen as far as content, quality of the program and allotted plenty of time to do the tests. A very professional job."

Carol Rinehart

- Contacted online students –Early Assist Program
- Online Comparison Report for Spring 2011 & 2012
- HSI Title V Grant
- Postsecondary Distance Education project-contacting all the states regarding exemption policies
- Monitored Blackboard Groups including enrolling users, checking on group statuses and developing content

- ITN Grids for scheduling
- Posted ITN grids on Blackboard and Edit Grid. Updated Edit Grid with ITN changes
- Assisted many students with questions regarding online classes
- Orientation for new student using Blackboard,
- Process part-time personnel requisitions; requisitions for purchases
- Process travel for DE & ITN personnel
- Order supplies for DE & ITN
- Substitute ITN operator

Zeke Torres-ITN

- Completed the ITN transition classrooms. Decommissioned the analog control to digital rooms.

Jaime Nolasco

- Created and delivered training to groups of faculty
- Provided Blackboard support to both students and faculty. This included receiving calls and emails on weekends and evenings and responding when necessary.
- Assisted with Toro Account Activation for students and reset Webadvisor/Toro Account passwords as needed.
- Assist Francisco Valenzuela by providing assistance to ACCL patrons as well as the lab aide staff.
- Met with instructors in order to assist with issues they needed resolved.
- Resolve trouble tickets concerning Blackboard as well as help and assist customers with their needs.
- Updated materials for the AWC Distance Education Website.
- Provided front-end blackboard support to DE offices and faculty.

Nicolas Hanhan

- Provide Blackboard Support for Faculty and Staff
- Individual faculty training for BB
- Helped faculty with video conversion
- DE Web pages update
- DE blog updates
- BB email tips
- Parker Blackboard training

Ernest Yates

- Photographed for DE and publications
- Worked on teacher gallery repository
- Supported instructors with various hands-on training related to online learning
- Web layout for DE site
- Worked on Google Earth project for campus
- Started DE videos project for web.

John Ringland

- Testing Adobe Connect software
- Working with faculty members to implement new streaming video service
- Assistance for Faculty in planning, producing, editing, packaging, and publishing audio and video instructional materials
- Individual Faculty Blackboard Assistance
- Documenting Specific Instructional events

- Engineering support for ITN

Honors

No report this month

Humanities

Communications Dept:

- At the request of the Yuma Visitors Bureau, **Ed Davis** worked with freelance travel writer, Roger Naylor, on an assignment he is working on for the *Arizona Republic*. His goal is to write an article encouraging people to visit Yuma in order to sample our wonderful taco (and other food) trucks. Ed planned his itinerary, accompanied him on his meals (2 dinners and one lunch at 5 different trucks), took photographs of some of the food, and discussed the mobile food scene in Yuma with him and with a representative of the Yuma Visitors Bureau. Ed made sure that he sampled cuisine in Foothills and in town. As well as providing much positive information about Arizona Western College to Roger, he also made sure that current and retired AWC employees were part of the eating groups. That way, Roger got to meet and talk with **Prof. Koblas, Prof. Straley, distance librarian Christina Sibley, emeritus professor David Coy, and former HR director LoiDene Berkey**. Overall, they had some excellent food and good conversation. Ed is sure that Roger will provide a positive and interesting article about one of the more unusual attractions in our great little city.
- **Ed Schubert** has incorporated a new exercise suggested by Stanley Fish in *How to Write a Sentence*. The value of analyzing sentences without grammatical terms is that it allows students to begin immediately. Ed is hoping that students will discover illogical constructions and use of unnecessary words through this process.

Fine Arts Dept:

- **Maggie Fenske** reports that several **AWC music groups** are helping out the Humane Society by participating in our 3rd annual YCMEA Play-a-thon on January 28th in front of Harkins Theatre. The String Ensemble class will be performing at 1:30 and the Chamber Singers will perform at 5:30. All money raised will go to the Humane Society.

Modern Languages Dept:

- **Steven Lund** is currently teaching AWC's first web based ESL class: Cultural Communication. This was previously offered on the main campus. This course is now available to students at all sites.
- **Georgia Tyson** and **Nancy Blitz** are working on revising the ESL Reading and Writing 1 syllabi for Main Campus and South County.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
STEVEN LUND FOR BEING SELECTED AS
AWC'S TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2012
AND TO
FORREST (CHIP) STRALEY FOR BEING SELECTED
HUMANITIES NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARD RECIPIENT
AND TO
HOLLIE VILLANUEVA FOR BEING SELECTED
S.T.A.R. ASSOCIATE FACULTY OF THE YEAR.**

Communications:

- **Ric Jahna** and the Creative Writing School announced the fall short story competition winners: Ed Schubert, Professor of English and student, Wayne McDonald.
- **Ric Jahna** hosted Poetry on the Grass. Several students, faculty, and community members read poetry.
- **Michael Miller** was featured in the Yuma Daily Sun with an article of the foreign film entitled "Protektor".
- **Ed Schubert** reported that the ENG 100 Composition Community met every other Friday at Starbuck's over the semester and covered a range of issues, mostly covering ENG 100 assignments. Ed would like to acknowledge Full Time instructor Anne- Marie Thweatt and associate faculty members Gina Luy, David Capaul, and Hollie Villanueva.
- **Barbara Belobaba** reported the following: In English 186 Folklore, students presented their final research projects, which included an oral presentation, a visual component, research, and a process essay. These are just a few of the selected topics: La Llorona Legend: Its Ancient Origins and Local Tales; A Comparison of Native American Creation Stories: The Black Foot, Cherokee, Lakota Sioux, and Aztec Peoples; An Analysis of the Russian Firebird Legend; The Mystery of Roanoke Island and Original Folktale Based on the Legend; Folk Literature and Classic and Contemporary Illustration; Christmas Rites, Customs, and Symbolism of the Christian Church; An Analysis of the Indonesian Legend: Nyi Roro Kidul; The Green Man in Folklore and Literature; The Hauntings of Alcatraz; Family Folklore and Folk Belief: Santeria; A Comparison of Two Versions of "The Little Mermaid": Hans Christian Anderson's story and the Disney Adaptation; and An Introduction to Osiris: the Egyptian God.

Fine Arts:

- **Chip Straley** and The AWCTheatre reported the following:
- AWCTheatre produced "Stand and Deliver" as the Fall Faculty Production. The play was a critical and popular success. Large audiences, at least three standing ovations, and several audience members saw the play more than once. In addition to the on-stage success, "Stand and Deliver" collected over 400 pounds of food for the Yuma Food Bank, and at least 48 bags of clothing for Crossroad's Mission.
- AWCTheatre students built the sets for the Yuma Ballet Theatre's production of "The Nutcracker." AWCTheatre students and graduates were involved in the Yuma Community Theater production of "Funny Money."
- AWCTheatre students held auditions for the AWCTheatre 2012 Spring Student Productions (two one act plays, two distinct student directors).
- AWCTheatre faculty did voice-over work for an AWC English professor's sabbatical project.
- AWCTheatre students and graduates filmed a local TV commercial for a local business.
- **Bill Blomquist** reported that Artwork by AWC art student Pam Drapala was accepted by the City of Tempe for exhibition in the Connections Café at the Tempe Public Library. In honor of the Arizona Centennial, the 2012 exhibition themes relate to people of Arizona, its history and the natural and urban environments that have drawn people to the state for more than 100 years.
- **Shawn Pollard** reported the following for the Music Department:
 - "The Christmas Gala" which showcased the AWC Choirs, Band and
 - Orchestra performed in the community on December 1st.
 - A formal student recital was held on campus on December 2nd.

- The AWC Faculty concert took place at St. Paul Episcopal Church on December 11th.
- **Valentin Bogdan**, professor of piano and music, reported that piano students performed a recital at the AWC Theater and that he received an invitation to present one of his compositions, "Digression" for solo horn, at the Region III Conference of the Society of Composers Inc, which will take place in March 2012, at Christopher Newport University, in Newport News, Virginia.

Modern Languages:

- **Nancy Blitz** met with the Yuma Education Foundation Board as the representative for AWC. The foundation board is working on the Yuma County Teacher of the Year Banquet. Brad Pease, Professor of Graphic Design, is creating the design for the program.
- **Kevin Mann** presented "top Ten English 95 Teaching Tips" as a CTE faculty workshop.

La Paz County

Upward Bound – There are currently 15 students at Parker High School in the Upward Bound program. One student graduated at mid-term. One new student was added this month. There have been 3 new students added this school year.

- There have been 75 student contacts so far this month with one more meeting still to come on the 30th.
- Ten students traveled to Yuma on January 21st for a Saturday Activity with the students from Yuma County.

T.V. Services/Tech – Preparation for the Spring semester, scheduling, grids, ect., staff meeting for ITN employees. Meeting with the instructors as an overview for the start-up. Installing new software for instructors. In the faculty area we added 2 more computers, with Camtasia software, Dragon software, and a nursing program. The new English instructor was set-up with computer, email, datatel, phone. 8 Video conference set-ups and 2 TV service shows. Served on hiring committee. Overseeing ITN, Technology department and TV Services on a daily basis.

La Paz Learning Services:

- **Dr. Linda Elliott**- Nelson traveled to Quartzsite and then Parker on January 18th for the La Paz Faculty start up meetings. Valuable information was dispersed and there was good attendance by faculty at both locations.
- AWC Foundation presented Scholarship Workshop to interested Parker High School students, and current AWC students.
- Performing Arts—sponsored The New Christy Minstrels, who presented 11 classroom workshops, and 3 assemblies to schools in La Paz County; and 1 mini-concert for Hospice of Havasu.
- Welcomed new full time English faculty Kimberli Swainston-Holmquist.
- Started spring semester with many full to capacity classes.

Quartzsite: An Instructor Meet & Greet was held on January 5th. This allowed the public to meet our personal enrichment teachers and ask questions about their classes. Enrichment classes currently running are Zumba, Drawing With the Hidden Mind, Astronomy, Meditation, ABC's of Computing 1 & 2, Digital Photography Manipulation, Oil Painting and Piano Keyboarding. The Master Gardener Club has also been having classes here on Wednesdays. AWC Foundation presented workshops for high school seniors at Salome High School and the Scholar's Academy on applying for scholarships (January

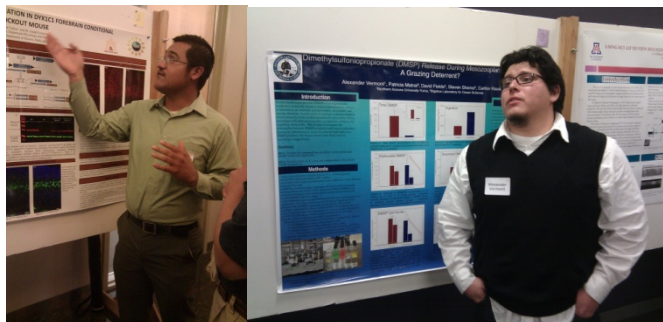
17th).

Science, Math, and Agriculture

- 1/9, feature Article on Yuma Sun Paper, on Prof. Alyssa Haygood, AWC Associate Faculty of Environmental Science, promoting her work in biotechnology



- 1/21, Dr. Francisco Villa took 6 NAU-Yuma students and one other AWC faculty, Dr. Kevin Young, to the 23rd Annual University of Arizona's Undergraduate Biology Research Program poster conference in Tucson. Two of the NAU-Yuma students (Juan Vargas and Alex Vermont) presented the scientific research they had done in this past year. All the students that went were able to talk to and meet with other faculty to discuss current topics and techniques in science. It also gave them an idea of what other students in the state are doing in their respective schools and majors.



- 1/23, Prof. Francisco Villa and Prof. Joann Chang advisors of the AWC/NAU Science Club has their first meeting, with the attendance of over 48 students. Student officer communicated their itinerary for the semester and communicated that last November's Science Club "takeover" of Buffalo Wild Wings brought in \$300 for the club.
- 1/25, Prof. Cecilia Vigil attended with 16 AWC National Science Foundation students and 2 NAU students, the Colorado River Terrestrial and Riparian Meetings, where local biologists and environmental scientists share their study findings and coordinate joint efforts for the restoration of the Lower Colorado River



South Yuma County

- San Luis held group advising on November 23 & 30.
- Somerton held their advising on November 30.
- San Luis has been holding group advisement for new High School students every Thursday this month.
- Host meeting with CESUES to establish partnerships
- Host Cultural Diversity presentation two days: Charlie Minn
Over 100 students & winter visitors attended.

Rotaract Club

- Members participated in the Paint-A-Thon sponsored by the City of Yuma.
- Members awarded 10 Gadsden School District Jr. High students with \$70.00 scholarships for math college courses.
- Students will participate on the Jose Yopez Walk-A-Thon on November 26.

Future Activities

- Begin collection of FTSE and Midterm Performance Grades

Business and Liberal Arts

Alison Keough

- The CDLL staff and the ECE Faculty are working together to more fully integrate the two pieces of the ECE program at Arizona Western College
- The CDLL is awaiting our annual Licensing visit from the Arizona Department of Health Services.
- The CDLL continues to work towards opening the second Preschool Classroom.

Humanities

- The Polynesian Club is now participating with Hui 'O Hawai'i of Yuma in their annual Luau to be held in February. The club is sharing their knowledge of Samoan culture, along with those in the P.C. who are Hawaiian, which involves dances, the haka, food, music, and stories.
Donna Taylor is the advisor.
- Rosstiza Todorova art gallery reception in AB 110 on February 1st from 4-6pm
- AWC League of Artists will be participating at the Two Rivers Renaissance Faire on February 3rd-5th.

- **Henry Averhart** will present at the CTE upcoming Annual In-Service: “Look at Me When You Think That: Negotiating Face Saving, Face Losing, and Face Honoring as Multicultural Educators.”
- **Ed Schubert** plans to continue “Composition Communities” in the spring but may have two different bi-weekly meeting times for all English teachers and anyone interested.

La Paz County

- Represent AWC’s interest on the La Paz Economic Development Project, Town of Parker projects, Workforce Development, and the Lower Colorado River RC&D
- Improve Student Services in La Paz
- Continue efforts to develop ways to extend the college’s offering into the outlying areas of La Paz
- Facilitate new growth at Parker & Quartzsite
- Develop New Classes and Build Enrollment
- Develop new strategies for registration problems in Quartzsite & Salome

Science, Math, and Agriculture

- 2/15, Prof. Scott Donnelly has organized the Russian Symposium.....at 3C Schoening Conference Room; 12:15 to 1:30 This symposium will explore - 1. Russia's tenacious control of vast reservoirs of natural resources and the use of said resources to wield political and economic control over its neighbors, 2. Its contributions to literary, religious, and philosophical thought, and 3. Whether Russia as a federation is endangered.
- Prof. Chris Benker was offered a unique opportunity to interact with the Near Space Research Organization. They will be conducting a weather balloon launch @ Yuma Co. Fairgrounds on Feb 18th. Embry Riddle aeronautical Univ. has an instrument panel going up with the balloon and they offered AWC the opportunity to send another one up at no cost. Only thing is that we would have to do is put in 2 hrs to rebuild it (no blow torches or anything just screw drivers and wrench stuff) from a previous crash under direction of one of their supervisors. Once re-assembled we would be able to collect atmospheric data from it as it drifts. They also invited us to the fairgrounds to watch launch and even "chase" after the balloon.
- 2/23, Prof. Francisco Villa has arranged for Professor Robert Pozos from San Diego State University to give a lecture at 12:15pm in the 3Cs building. Dr. Pozos’ talk is titled “Ethics in Science: The Use of Nazi Scientific Data in Modern Science,” and is free and open to the public. The Science Club will utilize this time to fundraise by selling buffet lunches. The Psychology Club has also expressed an interest in this event and may also have a booth there. Working with Michelle Faust, Francisco will have Dr. Pozos also talk about his research for a KAWC broadcast.
- Prof. Reetika Dhawan in conjunction with other math faculty is organizing the launching of a new math club.

South Yuma County

- Will host the 2nd Youth Leadership Conference on February 11, 2012. We anticipate 100 students to participate in the conference.
- The new AWC Language Club that is being established will be aimed to provide an open forum atmosphere that will aid ESL students in obtaining better English speaking abilities.

- Preparing for the Alicia Valdez Dedication ceremony on February 14, 2012.