

Monthly Report

Dean of Instruction
Linda Elliott-Nelson
November 23, 2011

Accomplishments:

- Visited STEAM Academy classes at Yuma High School and attended STEAM Advisory Board Meeting
- Planning for Spring semester startup and Fall semester end
- Facilitated Sabbatical Review Committee process

Business and Liberal Arts

Christina Hawkey

- Completed classroom observations
- Finalized Spring Schedule
- Hired associate faculty for Spring Semester
- Attended the AWC Foundation Board Meeting
- Reviewed current research on First Year Experience for students
- Begin working on New Faculty Institute for BLAD
- Moved the office around to create a break room for faculty
- Finalizing the hiring of a new History Professor

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Melissa Behunin

- This month I presented at the “When did you choose....” series on privilege (11/2).
- I also presented to the “Going to college” guests (11/3). We had a lot of fun making chocolate tofu pudding for the Vegetarian CUL class.
- On Nov. 18th I am going to be facilitating and presenting a Safe Zone training and LGBTQ General Education workshop on campus.

David Burris

- Moderated the debate entitled “Science and Religion: Enemies, Strangers, or Partners?”
- We will take our REL 201 students to the Islamic Center for an evening of food and information on Islam on 11/18
- The Philosophy Club will set up a table at Family Night.

Joe Vielbig

- Attended the Sociology ATF at Rio Salado on November 4th

Christopher Barker

- Facilitated a live video-conference with an international guest speaker from Jerusalem, Israel (who spoke about Orthodox Jewish practices) for my REL-201 students.
- Finished grading over 120 six-page essays.
- Taught a Sushi/ CUL-095 class.
- Completed the Community College Emergency Preparedness Course.
- Attended Academic Team Leadership meetings, Hall of Fame committee meetings, BLAD meetings, Honor’s Council meetings, and facilitated the Social Science Department

Meeting.

- Interviewed potential Social Science adjuncts with Christina Hawkey.
- Facilitated another successful field trip to the Islamic Center of Yuma for my REL-201 students.
- Facilitated the Philosophy Club booth (with David Burris) for Family Night.
- Gave a Blackboard tutorial for a REL-201 adjunct.
- Submitted new proposals for Fall '12 PHI/ REL WI classes.

Aryca Arizaga-Marron

- Conducted several classroom presentations regarding the Arizona Western College/University of Arizona 2+2 Bachelors of Science Degree program offered here in Yuma
- Attended Writing Curriculum Committee Meeting

Lindette Lent

- Presented an hour long presentation for the CTE on Saturday November 5th.
- Contributed a story to the 50 word essay contest.
- We have had speakers from U of A and NAU into my PSY 290 classes this week for our career days' portion of the semester.

WELLNESS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Erika Vazquez-Aguilar

- The Karate classes won 1st place in the Day of the Dead Altar Competition (sponsored by the AWC Art Club)
- Karate classes will be participating in the Veteran's Parade this week
- **Francisco Aguilar** was nominated for PT faculty of the year

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Judy Watkinson

- **Alma Barrantey** attended the Articulation Meeting with the high schools on November 8th. She is in the process of making an agreement with Gila Ridge and San Luis High Schools to articulate CDA modules 101, 103, and 111. In other words Health, Safety and Nutrition! This was a useful step forward!
- Alma attended an evening dinner provided by Chicanos por la Causa which is implementing a new program with Child and Family Resources to place Early Head Start children into Family childcare homes. This is a new model for AZ and is grant funded. Both Judy Watkinson and Alma Barrantey have been involved in the whole process. AWC was recognized for its partnership and was awarded a medal to Judy but for Alma's contribution as well. The first 12 family childcare homes that have been recruited all received the CDA credential through the training program at AWC. This is an on-going venture and we hope to continue advising for education opportunities for these home providers!
- **Susie O'Brien** attended the Collaborators meeting for the Pathways grant at Central AZ. We continue to receive funds from this grant to provide ECE courses particularly for CDA students but also for associate degree core classes. Susie continues to recruit and run the grant under Judy's supervision.
- **Judy, Alma, Luisa and Susie** are all heavily involved in advising for the next semester. Alma and Luisa have spent a day in San Luis. Susie holds recruitment sessions for the Pathways grant at the "E" Center!

- **Judy and Alma** spent a day in Parker at the CRIT Indian Head Start. We met with 13 students and advised for both the CDA and AAS programs. We are looking to better serve our students in Parker with innovative deliveries. An example could be hybrid but meeting face to face every other week in Quartzsite! These are only in the brain-storming stage right now!

CHILD LEARNING LABORATORY

Alison Keough

- Hosted the annual Storybook Parade
- Had a total of 170 visitors to the CDLL during this month including
 - Nursing Students completing DDST's
 - Parents
 - ECE Students
 - EDU Students
 - FAS students
 - ESL Students reading with children as an assignment
 - ECI Students from NAU
 - Community members from Quechan Tribe, Parker CRIT Head Start Program
- Fuddle visited the center: read "Fuddle Learns to Cuddle"
- Hosted two parent meetings regarding NAEYC Accreditation/ Parents have decided to create a monthly parent group to meet socially and assist the ECE Club with fundraising and Accreditation. The first meeting will be on December 5th.
- Hosted the Indian Hoop Dancers who performed for the children/ Shara Roberts.
- The Preschool classroom took a field trip to the Gym where they exercised, talked about being healthy.
- The CDLL and the ECE Club participated in the Family Night at AWC, had children's activities, and sold hot chocolate/ cookies etc.
- The CDLL participated in the White House Christmas Tree Event, Alma, Ben and Alison were present to conduct tours of the facility during the tree visit.
- Working with Staff on the completion of classroom and program portfolios for out NAEYC Accreditation.
- Submitted our NAEYC Accreditation Application and have successfully entered the Candidacy Phase .
- Completed Billing for the Spring Semester: fully enrolled as of today.

Distance Education

Carol Rinehart

- Created Faculty Appraisal Committee Survey for Student Feedback and deployed to full-time and part-time faculty
- 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

- 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

- Continuing to transition the ITN rooms to digital and remove old control room equipment.

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
- CTE video conversion
- CTE PDF forms
- DE Web pages update
- DE blog updates
- BB email tips
- Blackboard training

Ernest Yates

- Photographed for Facilities
- Supported instructors with various hands-on training related to online learning.
- Web layout for DE site
- Photos for DGB
- Developed Training for English Dept.

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
- Available for engineering support for ITN

Honors

- Honors had a highly successful Spring Scholarship and recruitment drive. The recruitment drive funded 11 new honors members and funded 9 existing honors members.
- Enrollment in the AWC Chapter of Sigma Beta is up 25% and as such the Sigma Beta chapter has been awarded 5 membership scholarships to the Sigma Beta Chapter.
- Honors had a very successful trip visiting NAU Flagstaff. NAU Honors Director Wolf Gummerman was very accommodating and vowed to make the transfer process easy and transparent. Students also got to meet with Mary Zuniga a former AWC student and current Honors Student at NAU Flagstaff. She told students that the transfer process to NAU was very easy and that the NAU Honors advisor accepted all of her AWC Honors credits! The students were very inspired and felt very assured by this discussion. The students spent the following day visiting their respective academic departments and all said they had a wonderful time.

Humanities

SEVEN OF THE FOURTEEN NOMINEES FOR TEACHER OF THE YEAR ARE INSTRUCTORS IN HUMANITIES. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING NOMINEES:

*MIZABA ABEDI, BRAD PEASE, STEVEN LUND, STEVE MOORE,
KEVIN MANN, ED SCHUBERT, AND RIC JAHNA.*

COMMUNICATIONS

- **Mizaba Abedi** offered a Saturday class in English 102 for Head Start teachers.
- **Henry Averhart** is currently working on his dissertation, "Communicating Identity: Artifacts of African Religious Performance in the Contemporary Black Church." Targeted defense is spring 2012. Henry has accepted an invitation to be a student mentor by Residence Life. He is also part of the planning committee for AWC's 50th Anniversary Celebration. Henry has been working on the formation of an AWC Debate team.

FINE ARTS

- **Valentin Bogdan** was invited to perform a classical piano recital at First United Methodist Church of El Centro, California.
- **Valentin** will be performing on Nov 20th a classical piano recital at Gloria de Cristo Lutheran Church.
- **Shawn Pollard** reports the following concerts were held at the campus and in the community: Band Concert – AWC Community Band, Cibola HS Wind Ensemble, Yuma HS Wind Ensemble @Yuma High; Student Recital – AWC Informal Recital, (AWC Campus); Band Concert – AWC Jazz Ensemble, Cibola HS Jazz Ensemble, Yuma HS Jazz Ensemble @Yuma High; Family Night – performances by the AWC Pep Band and Jazz Ensemble; Band Concert – AWC Jazz Ensemble, @ the Arizona Marketplace in Yuma; AWC Hall of Fame Banquet – performance by the AWC Jazz Ensemble.
- **Angel Luna** took five art club members to participate and learn about the pit fire ceramic process held at Cochise College Pit Fire Festival. AWC League of Artists sponsored and supervised the Day of the Dead events on campus. Awards for the altar competition were created by Angel Luna. The AWC League of Artists participated in Family Night. Angel also participated in Yuma's Art Walk, which was held in the community on November 18th.
- Under the direction of **Brent Rogers**, the Chamber Singers did an exchange with the Yuma High School Choirs to show how college level rehearsals and performances take

place. The high school students also performed for the Chamber Singers.

- Two voice majors, Clara Ortega and **Cristen Felli**, performed the National Anthem at AWC's Family Night.
- All AWC music majors participated in an informal recital on November 9th.
- The AWC theatre performed *Stand and Deliver* during the month of November. The donations accepted at the door were given to the community through the Yuma Food Bank and Crossroads Mission.

MODERN LANGUAGES

Nancy Blitz and **Brian Beeles** had a cross-language exchange with ESL and SPA 101 students. Spanish students conversed in Spanish and ESL students conversed in English. Students prepared a list of set questions in the target language. These exercises enable all students to practice their conversation skills with a native speaker.

La Paz County

T.V. SERVICES/TECH

TV services have produced 6 shows this month and the new video conference room is being booked on a regular basis.

La Paz Learning Services:

- On Oct 26th we held the "Transfer Fair" coordinated by **Martha Cordova** and the Transfer Services Division from main campus.
- **Margaret Dewey** and **Eileen Ostergren** attended Advising update meeting at main campus.
- **Judy Watkinson** came from main campus to advise 10-20 students employed at Head Start regarding ECE degree attainment.
- On Nov 10th we hosted the AWC Foundations presentation to employees on "Dreams to Reality"
- November 17th - Margaret did 2 presentations to Ombudsmen alternative high school in Parker regarding post high school educational opportunities.
- We are currently interviewing for a full time English instructor

QUARTZSITE LEARNING SERVICES

- **Eileen Ostergren** attended a La Paz County School administrators' meeting on 10/20 and an advisement spring start-up meeting on 11/02.
- **Kimberly Kilwein** took Quartzsite students to the La Paz County transfer fair on 10/26. We held our first "Meet the Instructor" event here at the center on 11/10 and had a nice turnout.
- Our Winter Personal Enrichment catalogs were completed and have been disbursed around town and are out on racks at a variety of key locations.
- We have a workshop scheduled for Scholar's Academy seniors here at the center on 11/28 and are working to bring Susie Pino from the Foundation here to conduct scholarship workshops for our QLC students and seniors and Salome High School.
- We have been busy coordinating personal enrichment courses, dates, times, etc, with our associate faculty. The winter course schedule is completed.
- La Paz County School District continues to use our facility for monthly administrator meetings and trainings. U of A recently held 4H meetings here and will be teaching a

Master Gardner class at our facility this winter. First Things First continues to hold meeting here.

- November 10th we held a “Meet the Facility” open house which drew approximately 50 new people from the community.

EDUCATIONAL TALENT SEARCH

November 9th – We had a Grade Activity (Who Wants to be a Millionaire?) at AWC Yuma and the week after Thanksgiving we will have a 6th Grade Activity @ AWC Yuma (Welcome Day) We continue to hold regular monthly meetings at the high school and weekly after school and study hall meetings at Le Pera and Wallace.

Science, Math, and Agriculture

- 11/1- **Cecilia Vigil** Interviewed at KAWC on the subjects of “Bats on the AWC Campus”.



PHOTO BY NICK CANADAY/LOANED PHOTO
AWC student Dakota Marshall releases a desert pupfish into an aquarium in the lobby of the Agriculture and Science Complex on campus during a ceremony in conjunction with Arizona Game and Fish Department Tuesday afternoon. Desert pupfish (Cyprinodon macularius) are an endangered species that were

- 11/8 - Pup-Fish Release Celebration
- 11/8 - **Professors Joseph Mitchell, James Williams, Anne Gallagher, Cecilia Vigil** attended AWC/AUHSD/YUHSD Articulation Workday
- 11/8 - **Prof. Charles Godfrey** had guest speaker, Brian Butcher, a financial advisor from Edward Jones, speak to his MAT 142 classes, about enhancing his students' knowledge regarding stocks, bonds, and various questions that they had in relevant areas.
- 11/9 - **Kevin Young**, Professor of Biology, led a conversation at Brown Bag Lunch at the CTE on “Assessing the role of Assessment”. - testing practices.
- 11/15 – **Prof. Chris Benker** was interviewed at AWC on “Skateboarding and the Action Science program”.

- 11/15 **Prof. John King** hosted a display of the 27-volume set of book collection "The Moths of North America", donated by the Wedge Entomological Research Foundation. The collection of books, entitled the, as well of insect collections from John King, Ian Watkinson and Jennifer Bundy, photographs of insects by Jennifer B., and a collection of



insects from an NAU class, entitled "Pollinators of Southern Arizona". The latter is part of an ongoing project with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service where students collect and identify bees, wasps, butterflies and beetles in Brown

Canyon, an area known for its biodiversity in the Baboquivari Mountains of southern Arizona.

- **Professors Kevin Young and Joseph Mitchell** - participated in the I Go 2 College day with the 5th graders. Dr. Young discussed reptiles and other Yuma creatures; Prof. Mitchell worked on chemistry for a better life
- **Prof. Francisco Villa**
 - Preparing for upcoming Science Club activities for Family Night and field trip to the Forensics lab in Phoenix.
 - Met with Science Club on Friday November 4th to discuss an NSF summer research program in Siberia, Russia for undergraduates. Had lunch with the club and Cecilia Vigil afterwards.
 - Met with Ted Martinez and Brianna Borders from the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation. We discussed the possibility of cultivating and studying a native milkweed species here on campus. The project will involve some of our undergraduate laboratory courses and will provide money for a summer undergraduate worker.
 - Went to the annual SACNAS conference in San Jose towards the end of October. Met with various representatives from other institutions that offer paid summer research programs for undergraduates to disseminate to the Science Club. Also, got to meet with program managers from the NIH and NSF to discuss funding opportunities in the Sciences and educational changes in scientific curricula. The conference was opened by astronauts at the international space station and had talks by Lydia Villa-Komaroff (first to clone insulin into bacteria, the precursor to commercial production) and distinguished physicist Alex Filippenko.
 - Was part of a group that submitted a review article to Phytochemistry Reviews titled "Interkingdom signaling by structurally related cyanobacterial and algal secondary metabolites."
 - Received advisor training and privileges for WebAdvisor.
 - November 7th had his MW morning CHM130 class connect with another chemistry class from Moravian College in Bethlehem, PA instructed by Carl

Salter. We discussed the chemistry of water and how our water sources, treatment, and policies differ between our regions. We connected live by webcam using GoToMeeting with the assistance of the HelpDesk. We would like to do this again next semester/year with the hope of recording the exchange. I was told by the help desk that we were the first science class to do this.

- Ted Martinez and George Montopoli are leading students in a collaborative ecological monitoring project for the Cocopah Indian Tribe. To date students have performed photo monitoring and ecological monitoring of sensitive wetland habitat on the north and east Cocopah Indian reservation. This educational opportunity provides AWC science students with real world experience and skills needed in their fields. This collaboration between AWC science and math faculty demonstrates the collaborative nature of science and especially environmental sciences ability to tackle real world problems.

South Yuma County

No report this month

Future Activities

- Finalize end of Fall semester, collection of grades, curriculum processing
- Plan for faculty meeting on January 6, 2012, and Spring 2012 semester startup

Business and Liberal Arts

Alison Keough

- Continue to work on Accreditation Materials to prepare for the Candidacy due date of January 31, 2010 and our Site Visit in May or June of 2010.
- Host our annual Stone Soup Celebration on November 24th
- Host our annual Christmas Program for our families on December 11th.
- Complete Parent Conferences during the first two weeks of December.

Humanities

- **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."

La Paz County

- **Diane Walter**, C.N. A. coordinator from main campus will be on site 11/21 to meet with Parker C.N.A. teacher regarding start up.
- Will start C.N.A. program on 11/29/12 with 5 JTED students and 5 at large students.
- 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

- Friday 12-02- **Prof. Rakesh Pangasa** invites us all to join in the AWC Engineering Program Celebrations 3:30 PM at AS 112.
- 12/2 – **Professor John King, Joann Chang** and **Zoe Hawk** will lead science club students to attend a visit at a Forensic Lab in Phoenix
- 12/6 – **Ted Martinez** and **Cecilia Vigil** will participate in flip the switch