

# MONTHLY REPORT

Dean of Instruction

Linda Elliott-Nelson

September 30, 2011

## Accomplishments:

- Began FTSE and Midterm Performance Collection
- Finalized Spring 2012 draft schedule
- Began Fall 2012 draft schedule
- Attended NCA/Higher Learning Commission Meeting on Pathway Model
- Presented to Yuma Private Industry Council/Workforce Investment Board on the STEAM Academy
- Finalized the STEAM Academy Grant with the Science Foundation of Arizona and submitted final report
- Attended Governor's Symposium on Education
- Commenced planning on Critical Thinking activities for 2012-2013
- Began planning for Community College Survey on Student Engagement
- Processed Articulation Agreements with the University of Arizona and Arizona State University

## Business and Liberal Arts

### SOCIAL SCIENCE

#### Christina Hawkey

- Finalized the Field to Feast Tours
- Attended the Governor's Regional Educational Symposium
- Worked with UA on 2+2 Programs
- Toured the Fitness Center with Dr. Soulsby
- Began Classroom Observations
- Worked with KEYS Program to design cohort model

#### Lindette Lent

- I am attending a three day writing conference in San Diego this weekend.

#### Melissa Behunin

- Wrote an article for the family focus
- The LGBTQ working group that I am a part of also had the first presentation from our "When did you choose"... series. ( I wasn't the facilitator for this particular event) Over 70 students were in attendance. Nearly 20 of my own students attended.

#### Aryca Arizaga Marron

- Attended College Night at Cibola High School to promote AWC Family Studies degree and the Family Development Credential.
- Took AWC/UA students to University of Arizona - Main Campus. Students toured the UA campus, conducted interviews with the Outreach and Communications departments. Students also met with UA Family Studies and Human Development faculty, staff, and student ambassadors.
- The University of Arizona ran the following story about the AWC/UA FSHD 2+2 program

participants: <http://uanews.org/node/41844>.

- I attended the Blackboard Exams Made Easy Training (8/31/11)

#### **David Burris**

- The philosophy club has now begun to meet regularly. Every week we have between 20-30 students who meet to discuss philosophical, religious, political, and ethical issues. Last week the students did a formal debate on capital punishment.
- I have continued plans for two community/campus events. The first will be a debate/discussion on Science and Religion. Two professors, Mark Wheeler from San Diego State and Gary DeWeese from Biola University will come to AWC to discuss the issue. The second is our semester field trip to the Islamic center with our Religious Studies students. Both of these events will take place in November.

#### **Susan Hejhal**

##### **News from PSY/FAS 238-002 Human Development.**

- Here is something new I am doing in my class this semester. I have been supplementing my lectures with partnered learning activities. Students complete an assignment and share the results with their learning partner. Then, six groups share what they have learned about their partner with the class.
- Last week, students constructed a memory map. This is a map of a place students fondly remember from their childhood. I gave the example of my grandparent's farm in Northern, Michigan. Students brought their maps into class and used them to describe their special place to their partners and then to the class.
- This week, students will bring in their first essay, they write three throughout the semester. On Tuesday, they will bring in two copies of the current draft of their essay. They will read it aloud to their partner while the partner follows along on his or her own copy taking notes and making changes. This process is intended to improve organization and flow. Following this exercise, students will have two days to make changes and corrections. Final essays will be turned in on Thursday, Sept 28, 2011.

##### **News from WED 212 Stress Management**

- This week in Stress Management, students will take a field trip to the CTE for chair massages.

#### **Mohammad "Mo" Bahramzadeh**

- Interview with KAWC : Discussing the current "Spring Revolution" in the Middle East and Africa.
- Acknowledged by Harvard Professor Thomas Peterson, The American Democracy, 10th ed. (John F. Kennedy School of Government) - I reviewed and revised the chapter "Foreign Policy and Protecting the American Way."
- Will be participating and chairing a panel discussion "Civil Society and Information Access: Navigating Political Space in Global South" at the 53rd International Studies Association Convention in San Diego. April 2011
- Collaborated with Dr Sherri N McCarthy-NAU Professor of Educational Psychology on the chapter on "Views on National Security in the Middle East." which will be published later this year. International Handbook of War, Torture, and Terrorism. New York: Springer (Edited by Kathie Malley-Morrison)

#### **Christopher Barker**

- Facilitated the monthly Social Sciences Department meeting
- Updated the Spring '12 schedule
- Attended the Critical Thinking planning for Assessment

- Attended the STEAM Professional Learning Committee
- Attended the Hall of Fame Meeting
- Delivered a presentation on SafeAssign for the CTE

## **WELLNESS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

### **Jane Peabody**

- We are making changes to the athletic coaching certificate and the Personal training certificate
- Oct 6<sup>th</sup> we will be taping an orientation for the fitness center that will be put on blackboard. This will prevent the fitness center from being closed for the first 3 days of the semester.
- We are purchasing lockers for the fitness center as a convenience to our students.
- We are also investigating new software for the fitness center. This software will track time for the student, reducing errors in the grading process. Students will have a key tag with a code to scan in and out. When the student scans into the fitness center, their photo will appear on the screen allowing staff to see that they are actually the student registered. This will also prevent unregistered students from getting into the fitness center as you will not be able to enter unless you have a key tag.

### **Cynthia Pavey**

- Brandi Martin, a former Women's National Arm Wrestling Champion is a student in my weight training and fitness training class. Brandi conducted a brief workshop for the class on arm wrestling with information including rules and techniques of the sport. Students were invited to partake in a double elimination competition. The students learned a lot about arm wrestling and were excited and surprised with the outcome of the competition. I plan to repeat this activity at least two more times by the end of this semester. Thank you, Brandi.

## **EDUCATION**

### **Patty Powers/Karen Spencer**

- Karen Spencer, Ellen Riek, and Patty Powers are in the process of running the first ever, education cohort of 23 students. We have conducted 2 informal survey's and the students have had provided extremely positive feedback. We are working on providing 4 classes that the cohort members could take so that they can stay together.
- Patty joined the ECE faculty and participated in the Non-tradition career fair on Friday, September 23.

## **BUSINESS AND CIS**

### **Carlos Sanchez**

- The Database 131-200 class was started on Tuesday August 16 fall 2011 at 9:00 am. After I gave my database class' speech and the handouts to the students, they began with several questions. What will be the homework during the fall semester? How can they get an A as a final grade? And until what day the bookstore will be open in the AWC San Luis Center to buy the database class' book. I responded them all their questions. On September 13 the students finished the level one that included tutorials 1, 2, 3 and 4. After lecture and tutorials' class room practice the students began their homework on class time. It is important to say that the students finished their homework in class that is case problem 1. On the previews Tuesday from September 27

we began the level 2 that include tutorial 5, 6, 7, and 8. Also, the students did their homework in class time from tutorial 5.

#### **CDLL**

- Judy Watkinson and Alison Keough attended the strategic planning event for First Things First in Yuma. One of the top priorities is kindergarten Readiness. This has implications for professional development
- Judy Watkinson and Alma Barrandey attend meetings for the pilot project of placing Head Start children in Family child care homes. Many of our former students are being considered as part of the first pilot.
- Judy is taking her literature students to the main library for orientation on choosing as well as finding children's books!
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September was a work day with the help of staff from the lab school we cleared three book shelves ready for the office change around!

#### **Distance Education**

##### **Carol Rinehart**

- Prepared the online class comparison report for Fall 2010 & 2011
- Postsecondary Distance Education project-contacting all the states regarding exemption policies
- Transcribed the Distance Education Advisory meeting minutes and sent to committee members
- Monitored Blackboard Groups including enrolling users, checking on group statuses and developing content
- Compiled a list of faculty teaching traditional courses but did not use Blackboard in fall 2011
- ITN Grids for scheduling
- Posted ITN grids on Blackboard and Edit Grid. Updated Edit Grid with ITN changes
- Fall faculty appraisal for online classes
- 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**

- Completed the SC 115 conference room to be used for tutoring from the Success Center to other campuses

##### **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**

- Created training materials for Camp Yuma. Trained groups of faculty.
- Blackboard training session San Luis August 22
- Blackboard Training Parker August 25
- 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

#### **Ernest Yates**

- Photography for DGB and Admin
- Developing Presentations for Solar Array
- Supported instructors with various hands-on training related to online learning
- Developing new web layout for DE
- Portals and gateways imagery of campus

#### **John Ringland**

- Developed workshops for Camp Yuma
- Travel to San Luis & Parker for Blackboard training
- 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**

With the help of the office of grants and contracts Ted Martinez submitted a grant to the Arizona Game and Fish Department entitled Pronghorn Sheep Student Conservation Experience to provide Honors Students with a Conservation Experience on the Colorado River.

#### **Humanities**

##### **Accomplishments:**

AWC received a 5-year grant award totaling \$2,983,610, via Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions (Title V). The grant's primary focus is on the improvement of students' written communication skills through increased tutoring support and innovative supplemental instruction methods. Most of the faculty members on the committee who helped develop the

grant are from the Humanities Division.

#### **FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT**

- Professor Angel Luna was featured in the Yuma Sun this past month for his art submission being part of the Baltimore Clayworks exhibition.
- Professor Chip Straley and his students were featured in the Yuma Sun article about the “Matadors of Comedy,” which took place on main campus in September. Chip has started the process to bring two theatre professionals to our campus for workshops in the Miesner Acting Process and in Stage Management, which AWCT will share with the local high schools. Chip has also begun weekly stage combat training for Gila Ridge High School.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT**

- The Writing Center, which opened its new facility in the Student Success Center on north campus in Fall 2010, has had a remarkable turnout of students for the Fall 2011 semester thus far (from 8/15/11-9/15/11), with over 450 students signing in for writing tutor support approximately 1150 times. While the majority of students sought tutoring for writing support in English classes (254 students signed in 713 times), the remainder sought writing support for a wide variety of courses, including ESL, computer courses, the sciences, Spanish, and Writing Intensive courses across disciplines. As many of the faculty and staff involved in the development Writing Center hoped, AWC students now see the Writing Center as a place to receive support as they develop as academic writers.
- Professor Sam Metta Bexar was selected to represent AWC at the state Common Core Standards initiative for Adult Basic Education in Arizona.
- Professor Jane Williams has completed her dissertation prospectus for the doctoral program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Her primary discipline is in English with a focus on 19<sup>th</sup> century American literature along with a second discipline in History with a focus on 19<sup>th</sup> century American culture, history, and print media.
- Professor Ed Schubert was interviewed on KAWC to discuss his English 220 Science Fiction class.
- Professor Ric Jahna reported that over thirty people attended the web conference with author Thomas Cooper “The Art of Writing Micro-fiction.” The event was sponsored by the writing school. The 100-word story contest is still open with submissions welcomed through October 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Professor Joanne Krueger reports that The AWC Classic Book Club had twenty people in attendance for their first two meetings.
- Professor Michael Miller published a film review in the city daily newspaper, *The Yuma Sun*, titled “Duty from Hell Becomes Journey of Self Discovery,” about the film *The Human Resources Manager* (Israel, Romania, France, and Germany) as well as on *The Sun* web site at <http://www.yumasun.com/articles/film-72579-human-many.html>.

The *Western Voice: Campus Journalism of Arizona Western College* has returned to the yellow news bins on campus, having published a September 2011 issue, with Michael Miller as faculty advisor.

**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:**

Our efforts this last month include but are not limited to:

- Early Assistance Presentations to all developmental classes.
- Promoted Writing and Math Center workshops along with tutoring for our students.
- Promoted upcoming (Oct 5) on site workshops by Student Success Center and Library Services.
- Hosted a visit by Bryan Doak and various staff from his department.
- Worked with PAACE on Red Ribbon week
- Attended the Governor's Symposium on Education
- Held Blackboard Training for La Paz faculty and students

### **Quartzsite Learning Services:**

With the winter crowd soon to be upon us, we have been busy coordinating personal enrichment courses, dates, times, etc, with our associate faculty. A draft of our winter course schedule is completed and undergoing final editing. It will be forwarded to our printing department this week.

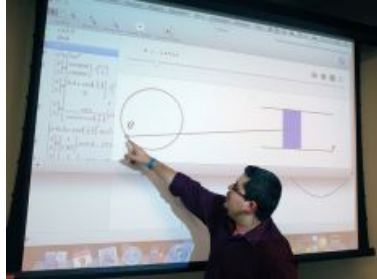
- **Eileen Ostergren** attended a number of meetings: Border Health bringing training for medical professionals to the La Paz area, ASU establishing a campus in Lake Havasu City & how it may affect the local area, Grand Canyon University Guidance Counselor Breakfast, meeting with Lynn LaBrie regarding the potential of switching personal enrichment classes to a non-credit format. I also presented a "How to Prepare for College" workshop at Salome High School and participated in College Days at Wickenburg High School and Salome High School.
- **Kimberly Kilwein** attended her monthly C.E.A. meeting and we are presently working with Lori Stofft to create a Face book page for the Quartzsite Learning Center. Another exciting accomplishment for us is that we were able to hire one of our students, Marie Wister, as a peer tutor for our math students. We've brought in an English 100 class via video conferencing for one of our students, and that has been successful. Kevin Eoff has been teaching from our ITN room here in Qtz and that is going well, also. We look forward to being able to have more teachers originate from here in the future!
- La Paz County School District continues to use our facility for monthly administrator meetings and trainings. U of A recently held 4H start up meetings here and will be teaching a Master Gardner class at our facility this winter. First Things First held a meeting here for the first time this month and we brought in over 30 new faces who had never toured our facility before. The reviews were very positive and we feel it is great exposure!

### **Science, Math, and Agriculture**

- 9/1 Prof. Cecilia Vigil, guest speaker for Introduction to Psychology Class
- 9/2 Article "Giving a Hoot" in the Yuma sun – explaining the rehabilitation program that AWC students are involved in, under the mentoring of Dr. George Montopoli and Dr. Cecilia Vigil
- 9/3 > 9/5 Professor John King, assisted by , Professors Joe Mitchell and Cecilia Vigil,

took 17 biology/environmental-science students to Brown Canyon AZ for a Natural History Field Trip

- 8/8 & 9/9 Professors Dahwei Chang and Anne Gallagher represented AWC at first meeting in Phoenix for the Adult Education Alignment Team for Mathematics
- 9/11 Article "AWC professor hours away from being on fateful flight" in Yuma Daily Sun – describes Professor Bob Valleni, associate physics professor's experience during 9/11



- 9/12 Article "Crunching the Numbers" in the Yuma Sun – story on AWC math Professor Miguel Sanchez
- 9/13 STEAM open house organized by Anne Gallagher.... for parents and community to explore classrooms supported by STEAM funding , and opportunity to speak to teachers, administrators and others involved in implementing and sustainability of the program
- 9/16 Professors Christian Benker and Fred Croxen attended the Geological Sciences State Articulation Task Force meeting at Glendale Community College.
- 9/19 Scott Donnelly presented at Carpe Diem, demonstrating solar technology to 7th-8th graders. This is in collaboration with Dave Brown from Southwestern College in Chula Vista, CA. In celebration of 2011 being the International Year of Chemistry, Dave is promoting solar energy K-8 activities along the U.S-Mexico border region with his iLASER NSF grant.



- 9/24 Dr. Francisco Villa attended with a group of science students, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Arizona Game and Fish (AGFD) event observing national Public Land Day. The purpose was to clean up recreational sites in the Yuma area, in this case, around the Mittry Lake Area.

#### **Other Projects:**

- Prof. Robert Senzer is organizing informal math tutoring sessions at the Parker campus. He is also in the preliminary stages of developing a Geometry text, working with a colleague at the Art Institute of Phoenix. They are looking at developing a better geometry text, more suitable to a class entitled "Geometry in Arts and Nature". He is in the process of researching the history of cylindrical pottery at the moment, otherwise known as crocks.
- Prof. Christian Benker, has been working since August, and estimates that this work will

go well into October, on revising a geologic manuscript for a Geological Society of America Special Publication on the Rio Grande rift.

## **South Yuma County**

No report this month

## **Future Activities**

- Complete FTSE and Midterm Collection
- Complete textbook ordering for Spring 2012
- Process Fall 2012 Scheduling
- Begin preparation for Spring 2012 Semester Startup

## **Business and Liberal Arts**

### **WELLNESS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

#### **Angie Creel-Erb**

- October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in the evening the AWC Belly Dancing class will be having their annual show entitled "Oasis: An Evening of Middle Eastern Dance" where students from the Belly Dancing class will perform. Admission is \$5.00. This is in conjunction with City of Yuma Parks and Recreation belly dancing classes.

### **EDUCATION**

#### **Patty Powers/Karen Spencer**

- Patty and 2 current students will be visiting 2 teacher cadet classes at Gila Ridge on September 30<sup>th</sup> to discuss the program and our new cohort model.

## **Honors**

Honors is preparing to travel to NAU in Flagstaff for a fall campus tour in Oct. Honors is also preparing to attend the National Convention of Honors Councils (NCHC) annual meeting in Phoenix.

## **Humanities**

- Professor Sam Metta Bexar will be attending ABE State common core standards in Phoenix.
- Professor Michael Miller writes a monthly film review for and introduces the screenings of the AWC Foundation Film Series, "Thursdays at the Theatre," in the Historic Yuma Theater downtown, in partnership with the City of Yuma Arts and Culture Commission. *Next date: Oct. 6.*
- AWC Chorale, Chamber Singers, & Youth Choir will be performing on October 7<sup>th</sup> at St Paul's Episcopal Church.
- Yuma Civic Orchestra and String Ambassadors Classics by Moonlight will take place on October 15<sup>th</sup> at AWC Amphitheater.
- AWC Community Band and Yuma High Schools Bands will perform together at Snider Auditorium on November 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Informal Student Recital will take place on Main Campus on November 9<sup>th</sup>.

- AWC Jazz Ensemble and Yuma High School Jazz Ensembles will perform together at Snider Auditorium on November 9<sup>th</sup>.
- AWC Jazz Ensemble will perform at the Arizona Marketplace on November 19<sup>th</sup>.
- The Christmas Gala will take place on December 1<sup>st</sup>, which will feature the AWC choirs, bands and orchestras.
- Upcoming Theatre events: "Stand and Deliver;" "The Rocky Horror Picture Show;" and the student production of "Baby with the Bathwater."

### **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**

Professors Daniel Russo, Luis Martinez, Dahwei Chang, Sotero Alvarado and Light Bryant will be holding the AMATYC Student Mathematics League competition round 1 exam on Friday, October 28. We will also be holding practice sessions here on campus on October 14, 15 and 22.



- Associate faculty in Environmental Science and Biology - Alyssa Haygood has secured a desert pupfish permit from AZ Game and Fish Dept. Alyssa has created a pupfish habitat in a fish tank in the lobby of the AS building and will introduce the pupfish to their new habitat later this semester.
- On 10/28 Professors Dahwei Chang and Anne Gallagher will continue representation for AWC at second meeting in Phoenix for the Adult Education Alignment Team for Mathematics

### **South Yuma County**

San Luis will host the District Governing Board meeting on October 11<sup>th</sup>.