

MONTHLY REPORT

Dean of Instruction
Linda Elliott-Nelson
February 28, 2009

Accomplishments:

- Participated in NCA/HLC Assessment Academy in Lisle, Illinois.
- Participated in JRCERT visit to AWC for RAD Tech.
- Coordinated activities leading to NCA/HLC site visit on 3/2-4/09
- Began FTSE Collection
- Processed paperwork for appraisals and load reports

Business and Liberal Arts

ASSOCIATE DEAN:

While recently attending a CHEA conference in DC, the president of CHEA (Committee on Higher Education Accreditation) asked that I prepare a presentation for the next annual conference in February, 2010. The purpose of my presentation is to give the members of CHEA an overview of accreditation and quality assurance of higher education in Latin America.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Susanne Goethals reported that she has been working with Philosophy faculty to develop a promotional brochure for Philosophy Studies at AWC. The brochure should be ready by next month. Susanne has also been working with Philosophy faculty to develop common exam questions for the Ethics course. The exam will be used for assessment purposes and will help ensure that students in all sections of Philosophy 105 are being held to the same standards. Susanne has been working on expanding AWC's Philosophy offerings in South County. Susanne reported that she taught a unit on the Pre-Socratics in her honors Ancient Philosophy class. She is currently working with an honors student to develop a semester project on the ethics of stem cell research. Susanne reported that she is advising two Philosophy majors who will be graduating this May on their transfer to the Philosophy program at the University of Arizona. Lastly, Susanne reported she met with the Social Science Department and the Curriculum Committee to prepare for the NCA site visit.

On February 18th, Pete Lhotka, reported that he had a Buddhist guest speaker, Dr. Myers, in his REL-201 World Religion class. Dr. Myers talk was on the Buddhist religion and Buddhist meditation. Peter has been working on setting up a field trip for his REL-201 classes to visit the Islamic Center in April. He's also setting up a visit by a native American shaman who conducts sweat lodges in Yuma.

Mo Bahramzadeh reported that he gave two presentations at the Faculty In-Service day on February 19th. On Tuesday, February 24th the Political Science department will present "War on Terror: Veteran's Perspective". On Thursday, February 26th the Political Science Club will show a documentary called "Iraq for Sale".

WELLNESS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Jane Peabody reported that the AWC weight loss challenge is in full effect. She reported that she had an interview at both the local radio stations and both television stations. KYMA has had Jane on two early morning segments. One segment was on the weight loss challenge and the most recent segment was last Tuesday the 17th which was on heart health. Jane reported that faculty have been preparing for the NCA visit. She reported that the Wellness and Physical Education Department had a meeting on the 17th to discuss what to expect during the NCA visit.

EDUCATION, FAMILY, AND HOSPITALITY SERVICES

Patty Powers met with Doug Rutan and NAU Education faculty to discuss program changes and determine next steps. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for February 26th to hear about Doug's meeting with the State and Flagstaff personnel to determine if any additional modifications need to be instituted. Mary reported that she participated in Senior Day.

Karen Spencer reported that she attended the NAU Curriculum meeting. Karen met with Mary Schaal to plan the May Teacher Training Task Force meeting.

Christina Hawkey reported that she was a guest speaker at the Yuma Rotary meeting. Her topic was "Family Strengths". Christina wrote a column for the Yuma Sun. Christina reported that portfolios are being reviewed to send to Cornell University. She reported that there will be 16 students graduating with a credential from Cornell in May. Christina reported that she will be assisting the Honors student with their Relay for Life team this year.

On February 9th, Nancy Meister reported that she hosted local dietitians for a plenary session on Public Policy, a webinar from the American Dietetic Association.

BUSINESS AND CIS

On January 17th, Mary Sue Depuy and Michelle Sims facilitated a 3 hour workshop for associate faculty on Blackboard. Due to the overwhelming demand, two concurrent sessions were offered. On January 24th, Mary Sue traveled to La Paz Center in Parker to facilitate two 3 hour Blackboard workshops for associate faculty.

Rick Keeling reported that he continues to meet with Yuma businesses, in particular YRMC and Yuma County, regarding internships for CIS students. Rick reported that the computer security program finished its approval process through the curriculum committee and will appear in the 2009/2010 catalog.

Charlie Balch reported that he offered a workshop on building a webpage.

Moses Diaz De Leon attended a Flex meeting as well as a Blue Ribbon Task Force Committee meeting. He also served as Club Advisor for the AWC Campus for Christ Club.

Distance Education

- Set up and implemented a pilot to complete online faculty appraisal and get a good response rate. Preliminary results show that students are opening and completing the evaluation at a much greater level than previous semester.
- CCRAA Grant -Plans are completed and approved. The teams of faculty are meeting regularly to redesign curriculum. The testing portion is planned and the A+advancer tests are being ordered to gather the data for the modular courses.

Humanities

- During January, *AWC Theatre* held auditions for "The Importance of Being Ernest" and cast the play. In February they began rehearsals for "Ernest" and cast "The Vagina Monologues," which will show in April as a part of AWC's Domestic Violence month programming.
- *AWC Theatre* worked the Two Rivers Renaissance Faire Jan. 30-31, faculty and students were the Fencing Master and assistants, and held the Fencing Academy. Acting students were the Faire's hawkers Guild and helped Faire merchants sell wares, were strolling players, and provided parking and other assistance.
- *Bill Blomquist* gave a printmaking workshop for Yuma Area Art Educators (part II) on Feb.
- *Ellen Cohen* facilitated a session at the Faculty Professional In-Service Feb. 19 – "Teaching Tolerance Across the Curriculum."
- *Ellen Cohen* Participate as panel member for Faculty Professional In-Service NCA session 2/19/09
- *Ellen Cohen* organized an Educators for Peace meeting, Feb. 21.
- *Ed Davis* read 2 books by Ruth Reichl: *Garlic and Sapphires*, her chronicle of reviewing restaurants for the *NYTimes*, and her memoir *Tender at the Bone*. He also re-read Halpern's outstanding study *David's Secret Demons*.
- *Ed Davis* spoke at the meeting about AZ budget cuts, and an excerpt from his speech was broadcast on Channel 11.
- *Darren Dillman's* novel *The Preacher*, published by David C. Cook, will be released at the end of February.
- *Michelle Faust* presented at the Yuma County Professional Development Day (Feb. 13) and at the AWC/ NAU In-Service (Feb. 19).
- *Michelle Faust* worked with Kevin Lieby, for whom I am advising on an Honors Capstone, to hold a Latin Dance to benefit Panama United (Sept. 20, 2009).
- *Steven Lund* attended a board meeting of The Danish Immigrant Museum in Orange County, CA, Feb. 12-15. Guests included Prince Christian Castenskiold, grandson of King Frederik VIII and nephew of King Christian X of Denmark.
- *Michael Miller* published a film review in the Yuma city daily newspaper, *The Sun*: "Living Under the Bombs," Feb. 5.
- *Michael Miller* published the third in a 3-part series on travel down the Baja Peninsula in the Yuma city *The Sun*: "Rough Roads and Last Legs," Feb. 1, http://www.yumasun.com/articles/baja_47530_article.html/return_tip.html
- *Steve Moore, Penny Cooper, & Ellen Riek* finishing revising the AWC Writing Guide and submitted it to Learning Services administration for review.
- *Bernadette Presloid's* ESL 92R class will meet at Otondo School from 8:00-9:15 next Wednesday, March 4. Each of my students will read a children's book that they borrowed from the Academic Library to kindergarten and first grade classes. This is in honor of NEA's Read Across America Week, more commonly known Dr. Seuss Day. We will be exemplifying lifelong learning and a love of reading.
- *Ellen Riek*, along with Vanessa Natseway, has the first AVID tutor training class underway with 10 students enrolled, several of whom have begun their tutoring at various YUHSD site schools.
- *Ellen Riek*, along with Vanessa Natseway, held a Writing Center tutor training Feb. 18. *Ellen* also held a new writing-tutor orientation in San Luis Feb. 11 and hosted the second such training Feb. 25.
- *Ed Schubert* participated in two presentations at the Feb. 19 in-service, assisting in Joanne Krueger's Games/Advisement presentation, and presenting his own on Shakespeare's Science Fiction, which focused on precognition in *Macbeth*.

- **Chuck Smalley** has arranged a setting of a Nicaraguan folk song, *Nino Precioso*, for SATB choir. The arranged music is entered into the music-writing software Finale via the QWERTY keyboard with the MIDI keyboard. This and many other pieces from our library are now in rehearsal for the Chamber Singers to perform at our Early Spring Choral Concert on March 6. Chuck also rearranged an SSA setting *Danny Bo*, also in rehearsal with the Yuma Chorale women for March.
- **Chuck Smalley** is preparing for a March 6 Choral Concert involving the Chamber Singers and the Yuma Chorale.
- **Georgia Tyson** has been accepted to go to Liberia to participate in a teacher-training event at Ricks Institute, July 1-15, as part of the effort to rebuild the educational infrastructure following 20 years of civil war.

La Paz County

- Educational talent Search/ Upward Bound:
- 02/05: "The Great Race" - sophomore activity, AWC Main Campus (9:30-1:30)
- 02/17 Senior Day on main campus
- 02/20: Career Fair, Parker High School (1:00 - 3:00)
- 02/21: Upward Bound Saturday Activity, AWC Main Campus (10:00-3:00)
- 02/23: Financial Aid Night - ETS and Upward Bound, La Paz Technology
- Total Number of La Paz students served in February – 386
- Barry Holloway worked very hard on putting together the PHS Career Fair which was a huge success.
- Jim Brouillette attended a Grant Writing Workshop
- Worked with a committee to develop standard procedures for creating and scheduling
- Personal Enrichment classes as well as certifying instructors for those classes.
- Worked on the schedules for summer and fall 09 for La Paz
- Worked on Program Evaluation for Educational talent Search
- Worked on upcoming Paramedic and Fire Fighter classes in La Paz

Science, Math, and Agriculture

- Yuma Proving Ground interviewed AWC students for engineering intern positions. Two students were hired as part-time with the expectation that these will segue ultimately to full-time positions. The interviewer was very impressed with the AWC engineering students and mentioned offering internships to those students who were not offered jobs.
- The Farm Bureau toured the Ag/Science Building and the wet lab and greenhouses.
- There were tours for the personnel involved in the WIRED Grant and Scott Donnelly toured a company in town looking at solar technology.
- The press conference for the National Science Foundation grants for science student scholarships was held.

South Yuma County

Started The SYC Student of the month award for AWC students. This will be done in cooperation with the monthly recognition of students from the Gadsden and high school districts

Started Teatro Comunitario programs in SYC this spring in partnership with other SYC agencies

Participate in City-wide Cesar Chavez Celebration planning committee for March activities.

Future Activities

- FTSE Collection and Midterm Grade Input
- NCA/HLC Site Visit March 2-4

Business and Liberal Arts

EDUCATION, FAMILY, AND HOSPITALITY SERVICES

Karen's subcommittee for the Teacher Training Task Force is planning to begin distribution of two surveys: one for first year teachers and one for administrators.

Alison Keough's subcommittee will continue to work on the education pathway for high school students through NAU.

Patty Powers will be participating in the Data Sweeps the first week of March.

Nancy Meister will be hosting a SkillsUSA Regional Competition in Culinary Arts on March 6th. On March 8th, Culinary students will be providing food for a fundraiser by the Yuma County Historical Society. On March 13th, 9 students will be presenting nutrition information at Barnes and Noble in celebration of National Nutrition Month.

BUSINESS AND CIS

Moses Diaz De Leon will participate in the Blue Ribbon Task Force Committee, the Flex Committee, the Compensation Committee and the AWC Campus for Christ Club.

Distance Education

Planning a Camp Yuma event for Summer 2009. We are setting up "a la carte" seminar offerings that will meet people's needs for technology training without the grant funding.

Humanities

- *AWC Music faculty* are looking at a Choir Day in mid-March at which seniors of the local high schools will be invited to visit AWC to watch rehearsals, get department materials, audition for ensembles, and receive academic advising.
- *Steve Lund* will present "Leave Your Worries Behind: The Logistics of Preparing for a Successful Fulbright Experience" at the NISOD conference in Austin, TX, in May.
- *Michael Miller* writes monthly film review and hosts Sun Cinema Series in Historic Yuma Theater downtown, in partnership with *The Sun* and the City of Yuma Arts and Culture Commission. Next date: March 4.
- *Steve Moore* will attend the Freshman Composition Seminar (McGraw-Hill Higher Education) March 19-20 at the Fairmont in Scottsdale.

La Paz County

- 03/01/09 to 03/04/09 WESTOP Annual Conference
- 03/20/09 PUSD Spring Break
- 03/27/09 – 9th grade Career fair
- Represent AWC's interest on the La Paz Economic Development Project, Town Pool project and the Lower Colorado River RC&D
- Improve Student Services in the outlying areas of La Paz
- Continue efforts to develop ways to extend the college's offering into the outlying areas of La Paz

- Construction of New Buildings: Parker & Quartzsite – Ribbon Cutting 3/26/09s
- Develop New Classes and Build Enrollment
- Develop new strategies for registration problems in Quartzsite & Salome

Science, Math, and Agriculture

Faculty are working on a Science Celebration in conjunction with the NAU Research Building opening.

South Yuma County

Career Fair to be held this March at SYC AWC.