

# MONTHLY REPORT

## Dean of Instruction

Linda Elliott-Nelson

11/30/2007

### Accomplishments:

- Conducted interviews for Associate Dean positions for the Schools of Arts, Humanities, and Human Services and Science, Math, and Agriculture
- Several faculty and areas staffed tables at Family Night

## Arts, Humanities, and Human Services

### Fine Arts/PERS Community

- **Chip Straley** presented the main stage production of "The Clock Struck Twelve" on November 9<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup>. Chip presented a workshop on "Focused Breathing; Precise Movement" as well as adjudicating five one-act plays at the 2007 Arizona thespian Conference, which was attended by over 1600 Arizona high school students. Chip reported that the AWCTheatre is involved in the revamping of the adjudication criteria and process for 2008. He reported that the AWCTheatre will hold auditions for the Spring 08 student production on Monday and Tuesday evening, November 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Chip presented a "Why Go to College" seminar at San Pasqual High School in California on November 14<sup>th</sup>. He reported that the AWCTheatre was able to take 12 bags of groceries as donations to the Yuma Food Bank and two bags of clothing as donations to the Crossroads Mission.

### English/Reading Community

- **Michael Miller** published a film review in, *The Sun*: "Ah, to Be a *Fraulein* Again," on November 1, 2007. He collaborated with other full-time and adjunct faculty in designing and submitting revised curriculum for Media Arts A.A. and A.A.S. degrees and certificate. Michael published the campus newspaper, *Western Voice*.
- **Porchia Moore** reported that the Writing School will begin airing readings of original student work on KAWC radio in the Spring of 2008. She reported that Author DJ Christopherson will read from her acclaimed collection, *Iowa in the Rearview Mirror* on Wednesday, November 28, 2007 and Poet Barry Wallenstein will read from his latest collection in Spring 2008. In addition, he will be performing musical selections from his brand new CD. Porchia has served as the co-advisor for the AWC Dance Team during the course of this semester and is the co-advisor for a new AWC club, Cultures United Together, which promotes cultural diversity and awareness. Porchia reported that the Writing School participated in Family Night. The Writing School also sponsored a haiku poetry contest for which the prize, an MP3 player, was awarded to Beryl Lay.

### Languages Community

- **Steven Lund** led a discussion on ways to increase community college participation in Fulbright at the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Fulbright Association Conference in Washington D.C. Steven submitted a proposal for a grant to develop a hybrid online ESL course. He also submitted a presentation proposal for the NISOD conference in May.
- **Ellen Cohen** Ellen painted and donated original art to the AWC Yuma Youth Choir Fundraiser for which she attended the dinner and concert.
- **Jason Malone** had an outreach meeting with a grant-based, community educational organization at Valle del Encanto Learning Center in Somerton on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Jason spoke to a class of approximately 18 women who would like to pursue their education to the community college level. He provided several flyers, marketing tools and FAFSAs. The presentation lasted for about an hour.

## Distance Education

- Held two technology training sessions in Parker.
- Follow-up training in San Luis for faculty.

- Met with Distance Education Advisory Committee
- Received 24 proposals for the Title V Course Development Program.

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

- A group of 30 science majors attended the Colorado Plateau Symposium in Flagstaff. These students were able to meet and learn from scientists from across the United States. The most compelling talk was about the demise of glaciers in Glacier National Park. On the second day, students were able to visit the Grand Canyon and learn about the ecology of the Grand Canyon and the challenges of managing such a large national park. This trip was a cooperative effort of AWC, NAU-Yuma and the Science Club.
- Ernesto Rodriguez, an Environmental Science, student, was awarded a mini-grant from Harvard University to continue his studies on ant ecology.
- A small group of science students were able to participate in the Arizona Riparian Council meeting in Camp Verde. They had intensive instruction on the threats to our riparian areas as well as instruction on restoration and remediation efforts that are taking place throughout the state.
- Marie McGee's Natural History class was able to explore the Saguaro National Park and visit the Southwest Desert Museum in Tucson.
- Fred Croxen was invited to attend the Colorado River Delta Research Coordination Network meeting held in Oracle, AZ. This is a bi-national effort to coordinate research and explore ways to restore the ecological viability of the Lower Colorado River. The meeting is attended by dozens of the top researchers and managers from both Mexico and the United States.
- Tim Whittier was awarded two research grants from the Bureau of Land Management. The first grant supports monitoring and research looking at fire regime and condition class issues along the lower Colorado and Gila Rivers. In addition, efforts will be made to mitigate fire damage along the Lower Colorado and to explore the possibility of using fire as a surrogate for flooding. The second grant provides funding to locate and gather seeds of native plants. These seeds will be placed into a national seed bank and kept for long term research purposes. Other seeds will be used to help restore areas damaged by wildfires.
- Tim Whittier and AWC were awarded continuation funds from the United States Geological Survey to support ongoing training of students in management of the Colorado River water. In addition, an agreement has been made that allows the Yuma Office to become a regional training site for future USGS workers and students working here can receive guaranteed employment in Idaho or Washington upon graduation.

## **South Yuma County**

- Sponsored Student of the Month Recognition Awards for San Luis City Schools.
- Testing new students for Middle school math Program
- Host four faculty members from Puerto Penasco

## **Future activities:**

- Preparing schedules for Fall 2008
- Preparing for end-of-semester activities

## **Arts, Humanities, and Human Services**

### **Fine Arts/PERS Community**

- **Chuck Smalley** reported that the Chamber Singers have been invited to sing for the Dillard's

Customer Appreciation Night on Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00p.m and the Presidents Holiday Luncheon on Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. They will perform a variety of traditional Christmas music. Chuck reported that the two choirs have been asked to perform for the St. Paul's Episcopal Church Concert Series on Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00p.m. He reported that the AWC Choral Christmas Concert is Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30p.m. at the St. Paul's Episcopal Church on 16<sup>th</sup> Street and 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The concert will feature the two choirs as well as the Yuma Youth Choir.

### **English/Reading Community**

- **Michael Miller** will be publishing a monthly film review and hosting Sun Cinema Series in Historic Yuma Theater downtown, in partnership with *The Sun* and the City of Yuma Arts and Culture Commission.

### **Distance Education**

- Testing updates for successful Blackboard upgrade in December.
- Pilot project for student e-portfolios using "canyouconnect.com"

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

- The Engineering Department will be holding on December 7<sup>th</sup> an afternoon meeting to discuss college pathways for students interested in Engineering careers.

### **South Yuma County**

- Prepare to move into new building at San Luis High site
- Continue expanded outreach to community segments
- Open new math classes to Jr High students
- Staff day time classes for South Yuma County