

Minutes
Center for Excellence Advisory Board
Dec. 4, 2008

Present: Joanna Anderson, Nicole Bryant, Todd Cotton, Judith Kirk, Mary Kubichek, Laurie Lye, Bill Mixer, Mike Olson, Jerry Nelson, Anne Rognstad, Ebba Stedille, Sarah Sulzen, Dana Van Burgh, Karla Volpi

The following change to the minutes of 11/6/08 was requested by Ebba:

The minutes from Nov. 6th said:

“Ebba also reported that she had a service learning class this summer who, through the help of Pete Van Houten and Kevin Anderson, conducted interviews of award-winning instructors from past years. These interviews have been recorded and they will be stored in the Western History Center with duplicates in the Center for Excellence. This will be an on-going project.”

Preferred language from Ebba:

“Ebba also reported that one of the projects accomplished by students in her Summer Interviewing class was the videotaping of interviews with award-winning instructors. Kevin Anderson assisted students with background research, and Pete Van Houten and Mike McLemore contributed their services in the videotaping of the interviews. This oral history project is on-going, as students in various CO/M classes have the option of collecting these histories as a service learning option. These DVDs of the interviews will be stored in the Western History Center with duplicates in the Center for Excellence. “

Laurie welcomed new member Nicole Bryant to the board, and reported that no answer to the invitation to join the board was received by either Neicole Molden or Scott Nolan.

During the G.I.F.T.S. sessions conducted in September, Nicole indicated an interest in working with Wiki's. Laurie asked her to make a report on her ideas for developing a Wiki that would house cross-departmental classroom ideas and lesson plans. There was discussion about whether this wiki should be in Moodle or on the CC webpage. Todd will create a link to the Wiki Nicole proposes developing on the C for E web page initially and Nicole will talk with Dave Siemens about its possible future presence in Moodle. Nicole will come to a special “demonstration” meeting in January, prepared to demo the type of Wiki she is considering creating. After feedback, any changes to the structure will be addressed and implemented. Once the wiki is ready, faculty will be introduced to this and have the opportunity to begin uploading material if they so choose.

Karla reported on some ideas she has to introduce some “virtual worlds” to the faculty to be used in classroom instruction. One is called “Second Life” and the other is “Wonderland”. She described the ways in which they can be used to enhance teaching. Since so many on the board

were unfamiliar with what she was describing, she agreed to create a presentation for the same “tech” meeting in January that will be scheduled for the board. She also discussed the types of clicker technology she is prepared to arrange instruction for. In each case it is likely a representative from the company producing that technology would need to come to campus to aid in the demonstration so we would want to schedule two clicker sessions for interested persons.

Regarding the discussion on whether or not committees such as “First Year Experience” and “Leadership Institute” might be under an umbrella with the C for E, Laurie described her action since this question was tabled at the last discussion. Laurie wrote a lengthy e-mail to Jane Nelson at the Ellbogen Center for Teaching and Learning, asking her to expand upon the mantra she and Ebba were given during their visit to Laramie last spring, “Create Consortiums, not Umbrellas”. Laurie provided a link to the C for E website and attached the PDF of the brochure given out at the Open House. To date, she has heard nothing back. Laurie asked Carmen how she would envision proceeding and again the recommendation was to proceed carefully on this idea and to continue research into this as well as visit Centers for Excellence across the nation who use the same model of serving all employees that we aspire to here at Casper College.

The board had discussion on where we wanted to direct our energies this next semester and it was agreed Adjunct Faculty were in need of mentoring. To that end, several potential informational sessions were proposed and it was suggested we try for some Adjunct opportunity to happen during the spring return week. Laurie will gather suggestions and fine-tune possible presenters.

A spring meeting date will be set next semester and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie