**Meeting Minutes**

**Wyoming School-University Partnership**

**Governing Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, January 29, 2014**

**10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

via Wyoming Equality Video Network (WEN)

Those in attendance included the following board members, guests, and staff.

***Governing board members:***

*Dave Barker (Platte 2), Boyd Brown (Campbell 1), Diana Clapp (Partnership chair, Fremont 6), Michael Day (UW, College of Education, interim dean), Dennis Fischer (Platte 1), Paige Fenton Hughes (Wyoming Department of Education), Dee Ludwig (Eastern Wyoming College), Mark Mathern (Natrona 1), Betsy Sell (Park 6), Audrey Shalinsky (UW, College of Arts & Sciences, associate dean).*

***Guests:***

*Presenter: Tammy Scott (UW Planning, Budget, and Institutional Analysis)*

*Alyson Hagy (UW Associate VP of Academic Affairs), Sue Koller (UW Planning, Budget, and Institutional Analysis), Sara Schlattman (Big Horn 3)*

***Staff:***

*Audrey Kleinsasser and Beth Wiley*

Diana Clapp called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. She welcomed those in attendance and introduced everyone at the different WEN sites. She extended a special welcome to our guests and our new board and executive committee member, UW College of Education Interim Dean, Michael Day.

Diana asked Audrey Kleinsasser to present the meeting agenda and supporting materials which included the financial report, the November 7 meeting minutes, and the director’s report. Audrey K. briefly explained each item. Boyd Brown moved to approve the agenda and related consent agenda items. Dave Barker seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved.

Diana introduced the grounding activity, the Partnership’s 2013 NNER annual report. She explained for our guests that at each meeting, we remember and affirm the grounding principles of the Partnership. Diana asked Audrey K. to lead the discussion.

As an overview, Audrey K. explained that the NNER report is an annual requirement of membership with the national organization. The National Network for Educational Renewal was founded by John Goodlad in the mid-1980s. The annual report process begins with Partnership staff. Office associate, Beth Wiley, along with the director, Audrey K., create the first draft. Then, the executive committee reads it and provides feedback, usually via email. The current executive committee is Diana Clapp, chair; Boyd Brown, chair-elect; Paige Fenton Hughes, past chair; Michael Day; and Audrey Shalinsky. Audrey K. participates as an ex officio member of the group.

The first section of the report shows Partnership representation on the NNER boards. Refer to the report, available at <http://www.uwyo.edu/wsup/nner/reports.html>, for 2013 representation. The rest of the report summarizes Partnership activities for the year. Audrey K. asked for reactions from board members and guests, including surprises, successes, and suggestions for projects the Partnership should be working on.

Dave Barker commented that the graphic showing the expansion of the Lost in Transition initiative was well done. David added that the Lost in Transition initiative provides a great opportunity for first year teachers to make connections and receive some renewing, encouraging feedback.

Boyd Brown agreed. He stated that the Lost in Transition meetings can be uncomfortable for the faculty involved at the beginning. However, we work toward the same goal of preparing students for a successful future, the initiative gains ground. Diana added that the initiative expanded in 2013 with the Literature Lost in Transition Summit. She saw this as a success given the current political pressure in the country and the state to provide a seamless transition from K-12 into college and university.

Mark Mathern asked if there should be a reflection in the report that the Wyoming P-16 Council may be disbanded or reimagined. Audrey K. agreed that this information should be reflected in the report.

Diana also asked to include the fact that Audrey K. has committed to participating with the legislative committee as the state of Wyoming continues to look at teacher and administrator evaluations. Diana thought that this information helps show another way the Partnership promotes democratic principles and stewardship of quality teacher preparation.

As there were no further recommendations, Diana asked for suggestions for Partnership work during 2014-2015. Boyd didn’t have a suggestion, but he praised the leadership of the Wyoming Partnership in the NNER. He wanted to see us keep moving in the direction we are going. Audrey K. suggested that one goal was for the Partnership to have a school district member from every county in Wyoming.

Mark commented that he would like to see a discussion about the possibility of the Partnership hosting meetings to discuss transitioning to success for students no matter where they go after high school. He explained that he didn’t see this as part of the NNER report, but would like to open this discussion up at a later time.

Audrey K. explained that the NNER report was due February 1, 2014. She said Partnership staff would make the suggested changes before sending the report to the NNER. Boyd Brown moved to approve the 2013 NNER report as amended. Dave Barker seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved.

Diana introduced Tammy Scott, from the University of Wyoming’s Office of Planning, Budget, and Institutional Analysis. Diana welcomed Tammy and thanked her for coming to share information about the UW Dashboard.

Tammy thanked Diana for the opportunity to come. She explained that her office produces the official data from the university. Tammy works specifically on data concerning transfer students, high school students, and maintaining the UW Dashboard. She wanted to emphasize that there is a lot of data easily available. To access the dashboard, visit <http://www.uwyo.edu/oia/dashboard/index.html>

Tammy briefly explained the concept of the dashboard and how it came into being. A dashboard can quickly show key visual representations of key measures for the university. The UW Dashboard was originally requested by previous UW President, Tom Buchanan, so he could have quick facts whenever he needed them. The dashboard is an interactive tool that uses Adobe pdf technology combined with Microsoft Excel graphics.

Each button on the dashboard will take viewers directly to the page they want to see. Viewers can scroll through the entire document if, but can get to where they want to go more quickly from the buttons on the main page. Tammy explained that her office is trying to find visual ways to display a story. That means that most measures show five years worth of data to help show trends.

Going through the first time, first year data, Tammy pointed out several trends that would be interesting to Partnership board members. For example, Wyoming high school graduates generally have a higher academic achievement at the university than students coming to the University of Wyoming from out of state. Also, student GPA generally decreases from high school to the first semester of university classes. This suggests that most students struggle more in their first semester of college than they did in high school.

Mark asked Tammy if the information was collected in real time. Tammy responded that this data is from a freeze – it’s not real time. UW’s institutional data analysts collect information at the end of the semester.

Mark also asked if information was automatically populated into the graphs within the dashboard. Tammy explained that updating is not currently automatic. Someone in her office goes in and manually transmits the data. This is labor intensive work. The dashboard has over 100 graphs. Eventually, the goal is to have software for the dashboard to automatically update. Tammy also mentioned that the dashboard should be updated in a few weeks to reflect current numbers that the university has collected.

Mark asked about students graduating from the university and their ACT scores. Did they know what the average score was of students who succeed at the University? Mark noted that obviously success would need to be determined by more than the ACT score, but was curious if there appeared to be any predictors or connections.

Sue Koller answered that the UW Office of Planning, Budget, and Institutional Analysis did have those numbers, but they weren’t currently included on the dashboard.

Tammy added that most of the original data on the dashboard came from the UW yearly high school report. Every year, superintendents, high school counselors, and high school principals receive a copy. Boyd and Diana both commented that their districts appreciate that report and try to share it widely, as did Mark, referring to Natrona #1.

Tammy continued that feedback was desired. If board members or guests had anything they wanted to see included in the high school report, they could get in contact with Tammy or Arley Williams, Assistant Vice President for Budget and Institutional Analysis, arley.williams@uwyo.edu. The high school report is different than the dashboard in that it contains mostly tables, not graphics. Tammy again pointed out some key measures, such as the fact that high schools can see the University of Wyoming four, five, and six year graduation rates from their district’s high schools and compare those numbers to other high schools in Wyoming. Also, there is a table showing how students from their district’s high schools performed in fifty key first year classes at UW.

Tammy asked for any final questions about the data she presented. There were no further questions. She thanked the Partnership for a chance to be part of the discussion.

Diana asked Audrey K. to present Partnership updates and other reports included in the governing board packet. Audrey K. pointed out that the Partnership tries to make these documents easy to duplicate and share. She explained documents about Lost in Transition meetings for Spring, 2014, the NNER national conference in Cincinnati in October, 2014, the National Board Certification for Teaching Initiative in Wyoming, and other documents.

Then, Diana invited Michael Day, Interim Dean of the UW College of Education, to introduce himself and give board members an update about the College of Education. Michael mentioned that he had been collaborating with former dean, Kay Persichitte, on an official update from the College of Education. They hope to release the update soon. Michael said he wants to continue fostering good relationships among early childhood, K-12, the community colleges, and the university. He sees the Partnership as a great example of an organization already in place that might be able to provide leadership for the state. Currently, there is no search for a new dean of the College of Education. Michael estimates that the search will begin during the summer with a goal to have a new dean in place by June, 2015. In addition, he pointed out the College of Education is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. He hopes to invite teachers and administrators from around the state to participate in a recognition ceremony during a 2014 UW football game along with other celebratory activities.

Diana thanked Michael for the update. She explained that, as this meeting was a distance one, there would be no official feedback form. She invited guests who might be interested in finding out how to join the Partnership to contact Partnership staff or Diana. She reiterated that the Partnership is a great place for collaboration and a unique place where conversations about our democratic principles happen. The Partnership helps members hold to those principles in supporting access to quality education and equity to all Wyoming students. Diana reminded everyone to come to the next meeting, Thursday, April 10 in Casper. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.