

AWE Retreat  
8/14/09  
Devon's Delectables Columbia  
Minutes

Participants: Lynn Martin, John Leamy, Melissa Raby, Dennis Gervin, Gary Mendenhall, Craig Johnston, Karin Rodts, Alicia Kolstad, Adrienne Webster

- I. Postcard to self (to be mailed to you later this semester!)
  
- II. The State of AWE
  - A. 09-10 Budget
    - We are spending last year's allocation this year so funding remains the same (100,000).
    - Gary reported that all proposed activities have been funded with the exception of Spring Review. Adjustments may need to be made to other FIGS due to reductions in non-AWE budgets (i.e. ESL)
    - Lynn and Adrienne will contact FIG leaders to be sure that paperwork has been/is being done if their FIG requires compensation. Will also provide an up to date list of FIG leaders.
    - Gary will be facilitating AWE work and is available to help support anyone involved through administrative processes.
  
- III. AWE structure:
  - Steering committee consists of anyone who would like to be involved and is a regular college standing committee (participants are not compensated for their involvement)
  - Core committee consists of enthusiastic staff and faculty who have been chosen to represent interests across the college. Core committee will participate in 3 retreats per year to do big picture/visioning work for AWE. Participants will be compensated for their time. Gary will initiate paperwork (using a flat rate of pay).
  - FIG leaders are individuals who are willing to champion and organize their project. Some FIG leaders are compensated others are not because their FIG activity is clearly part of their regular job assignment.
  
- IV. History: Vision, Goals & Accomplishments
  - Reviewed 2006 Basic Skills Task Force findings and recommendations, 2006 Preliminary Plan for One Time Basic Skills Funding, and AWE Strands and FIGS 2008-2009 to provide the history of how AWE has evolved. We have made tremendous accomplishments in a short amount of time!

- V. Where do we want to be in 3 years? The group brainstormed the following ideas:
- Students better served in summer
  - Start registration earlier
  - Sense of community amongst student body, community radio station
  - Peer mentoring in special programs
  - Faculty mentor/advisor for all students
  - Skills Dev 251 LD assessment in classroom setting and early support and services for both students and the faculty and staff working with them
  - Tools for faculty/staff about how best to support students with disabilities
  - Student email fully functional and user friendly for students and staff (needs to link to Connect Columbia)
  - Functional smart rooms across campus
  - Support services at satellite sites
  - More knowledge about how to access, use, and interpret data (accurate data available)
  - Students know more about what's available on campus and are able to make informed choices about programs
    1. Wow Week (Gary)
    2. Major Affair (Melissa R.)
    3. Expanded X-Reg
    4. Scavenger Hunt
    5. Students on 1<sup>st</sup> name basis with staff/faculty
  - English and math faculty describe skills needed for success, students self-place based on this info.
  - Essential Skills program described so faculty, staff, and students know what's available.
  - Homegrown online tutoring center
  - 2 tier pay scale for student workers
  - Students, staff, and faculty fully engaged in AWE "AWE is what we do"
  - Multiple models of academic skills development taught contextually
  - Greater level of institutionalization for AWE projects
  - Online orientation is fully implanted and old news (in 3 years). Hits all year long not only at the beginning of the semester
  - All students assessed
  - Essential skills aligned with programs
  - Faculty and administration understand connection between curriculum and assessments
  - Students successfully self placing
  - More students able to identify goals and able to follow through
  - Investigate, discuss, and act on required matriculation components (active intervention)
  - Assessment process that includes "non-academic" skills

- Embedded tutor in every class to support essential skills across the curriculum (teaching internship)

#### VI. Next steps

Next the group prioritized and took responsibility for moving the following 5 items forward this year:

Melissa R.: Assessment and student placement

Craig: Effective student email (will engage students to teach others)

Susan: Early Alert faculty use increased

Adrienne: Increase staff, faculty, and student engagement in AWE

Alicia/Lynn/Gary: Orientation and expanded info about program exploration for students

The group was asked how do we get the spark and keep the spark?

- Meals!
- Different space but close to campus
- Celebrate victories (especially student testimonials)
- Time to share ideas/dream
- Road Trips

#### VII. Planning for next retreat : December 11<sup>th</sup> 11:30

Fall Steering Committee Dates:

9/18 9:00-10:30

10/16 9:00-10:30

11/20 9:00-10:30

12/18 9:00-10:30