

# Dean's Council

April 9, 2012

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In attendance: Sheryl Bodrero, Sue Dalley, Dan Black, Michael Medley, Doug Dyreng. Beckie Hermansen, chairing.

Visiting: Doug Johnson, Dr. Rick White, Alex Peterson, and Sam Heikinen.

## **Recognitions, Affirmations, Celebrations**

- Dan Black received approval for AAS degree in Natural Resources. This will be offered starting this next fall.
- Michael Medley announced the program Industrial Mechanics will start for the Richfield campus.
- Sam Hiekinen told the Deans that the International Food Festival went really well, with a big help from Alex Peterson.
- Doug Dyreng shared with the Deans that the PBL group went to the state competition and all the participants placed well. Richfield's PBL also attended the conference and also competed well.
- Sue Dalley announced that her division would be having the Community Conference on April 20<sup>th</sup>
- Sheryl Bodrero heard back from her department review and got some good information.
- Doug Johnson mentioned that the Snow College softball team has won 12 games in a row.
- Becky shared that she has finished the IPEDs reporting. This is a report to federal government about the college.

## **AA Language Requirement for International Students**

- Alex Peterson came to the Dean's to present a proposal.
- The proposal: Students who pass all ESL courses with grades of B or better automatically fulfill the foreign language requirement of the Associate of Arts degree.
- His proposal is to remove the test that international students have to take on top of passing their ESL classes with an 85% or better.
- This test is a national test that even if students have a high GPA and are passing all their classes, they still struggle with passing the test. Once students pass this test they fulfill the language requirement for the AA degree.
- The test that Snow College administers is a later version, yet to receive a newer version would cost around \$200 a test.
- Alex mentioned he would like to still make the students take the pre and posttest. Taking the test would only be used for internal use only, to help improve their teaching methods and skills.
- This proposal was previously approved by the curriculum.
- There was a motion for the proposal to be passed.
  - Dan Black motioned, Doug Dyreng seconded; passed unanimously.

### **Future Directions for Service Learning/Civic Engagement**

- Alex Peterson also brought this problem to the Dean's. Service learning seems to be fading.
- Doug Dyreng thinks that it is a good thing and should keep going. Service Learning is almost the same as civic work engagement. If the service learning was incorporated into curriculum there might be more success with it.
- Dan Black mentioned that the honors program sideswiped the service learning. He gave an idea of getting service learning a new start, and just getting it done.
- Dan also noted that the infrastructure was in place for service learning but needed "fresh blood".
- Alex also stated that not many students know about it, and the ones that do don't want to do the work.
- Sue Dalley mentioned having a service learning center. Places were students could go to find the information and participate in the activities, and even bring up service ideas.
- The Deans were asked to bring it up in their division meetings and try to find some new ideas, to help with the service learning program. The Deans were also asked to report back, and possibly invite Jenny Anderson, Assistant Director of Student Life.

### **Global Engagement Experiences at Snow College/Grant**

- The program will be involved with existing courses and curriculum.
- There needs to be a definition for Global Learning that fuses into the education here at Snow College.
- A Global Learning course is being determined by the committee.
- The grant that pertains to Global Learning will be able to cover student foreign global engagement experience. This grant, however, has not yet been received.
- Most international/global experience activities happen in the spring so efforts will be made to have equal fall events.

### **Update on Innovations Celebrations/Symposium**

- The celebration on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April is an informal celebration to showcase this year's accomplishments.
- Beckie Hermansen asked the Dean's to report their 3 things from their division that they would like to present in the showcase.
- The "Falling Forward" award of awarding a good idea that failed, but taught the most and was the most influential will be a part of the celebration.
- At the celebration projects will be show cased to celebrate the year, to get new energy, and to create more ideas.
- Doug Dyreng suggested after the celebration to move the projects to the Greenwood Student Center for continued display.

### **“Count Seat” Feature on Snow College/6 County Summit**

- The video was aired on April 1<sup>st</sup>. You can still view it at [thecountseat.tv](http://thecountseat.tv).
  - Maybe even putting the link on Snow College’s website
- Doug Johnson attended the 6 County Summit with 100 other people. Businessmen at the summit explained to the attendees that they wanted problem solving skills and critical thinking skills in their employees. Such is the goal of our institution.
- Dr. White mentioned that the SVC in Richfield was housing a Rural Business Conference on Thursday and they will waive the fee for any faculty, staff or student of Snow College that want to attend.
- A week from Thursday on April 19<sup>th</sup> there will be a 10<sup>th</sup> grader career fair from all programs at the SVC in Richfield also.

### **Updates on Hirings/Appointments**

- Dan Black- New math employees have been contacted and they have accepted. He also will be able to hire one new person for the Natural Resource department.
- Sheryl Bodrero- Can hire one person from the same pool of applicants. It’s the same pool for communications and forensics.
- Sue Dalley- Can hire one person to create a new course for Outdoor Leadership and Entrepreneurship. Home and Family Studies can pick two people. Also an additional American Government/Political Science position.
- TBSI- Susan Crook was hired for a part time interim position as the director until July 1. Then a full time interim position will be offered for Administrative Assistant for TBSI.

### **Update on Assessment and Accreditation Needs**

- Doug Dyreng discussed a method/survey that his division put together to help his faculty. He will send an example to the Deans of a survey that he handed to his students.
- Dr. White mentioned that the Deans needed to do more than just survey the students. They needed to be able to complete all the requirements for TracDat.
- The Deans are to complete all their meetings with their staff by May 7 preferably sooner and have the information entered in TracDat by May 9.
- Dr. White is more than willing to help; if Deans and the faculty get together he can come up and help with that also.

### **Other**

- Sam Heikinen wanted to discuss graduating without a diploma and the steps to get there.
  - Created as an action item for the next Deans council.