

Service-Learning Steering Committee Meeting
Thursday, January 18, 2007

Minutes

Present: Michele Dickinson, Toni Sage, James Sage.

Discussion:

A. Meeting dates for Spring semester:

After gathering schedules for all who were present (as well as a few of those who couldn't make it to the meeting), we've come up with a four suggested meeting times for our regular meeting.

* below indicates that the day varies because of conflicting events (colloquium, spring break, etc.).

Third or Fourth Friday of the month between 11 am and 12 noon.

Option A

Option B

<u>Third Friday of the Month</u>	<u>Fourth Friday of the Month</u>
Friday, February 23* @ 11 am	Friday, February 23 @ 11 am
Friday, March 16 @ 11 am	Friday, March 30* @ 11 am
Friday, April 20 @ 11 am	Friday, April 27 @ 11 am
Friday, May 18 @ 11 am	Friday, May 18* @ 11 am

Second or Fourth Thursday of the month, between 9 am and 10 am.

Option C

Option D

<u>Second Thursday of the Month</u>	<u>Fourth Thursday of the Month</u>
Thursday, February 8 @ 9 am	Thursday, February 22 @ 9 am
Thursday, March 8 @ 9 am	Thursday, March 29 @ 9 am
Thursday, April 12 @ 9 am	Thursday, April 26 @ 9 am
Thursday, May 10 @ 9 am	Thursday, May 17* @ 9 am

Please send your top 2 choices to James (jsage@uwsp.edu)... thanks!

B. Continuing conversation about VISTA/WiCC sustainability.

Michele reported that Alverno College decided to hire a full time service-learning coordinator, and she'll get a copy of their documents (job description, etc.) to share with Patricia as we gear up to lobby admin for support.

Michele reported that Pamela Proux-Curry (Director of Wisconsin Campus Compact, WiCC) desires to have UWSP on the same calendar cycle for the VISTA program. This means that Michele's calendar cycle will be as follows: August 24, 2007 will be the conclusion of UWSP's second year of the 3-year VISTA appointment. This will allow UWSP to have one additional full year of service from a VISTA (until Aug 2008). Prior to (but effective in August 2008), UWSP will have to re-write a new (significantly

different) job description for the VISTA position (this will allow UWSP to have an additional 3 years of a VISTA), only costing UWSP 10K per year.

As we develop that new VISTA description, we should also consider other ways in which UWSP can support the VISTA in other ways (housing, food, insurance, stipends, etc.).

This renewal of the VISTA position should be considered to be compatible with simultaneous efforts requesting UWSP to hire a full time service-learning coordinator. When we propose that position, we should keep a few ideas in mind: that a full time service-learning coordinator is an example of program building, that such a position is cost-effective (contributing valuable service to the local community... about \$14 per volunteer hour), that a service-learning coordinator could help with grant writing and fundraising, etc.

We also need to keep in mind that when we approach admin for support, we must present detailed data (documenting Michele's work, faculty contact hours, service hours, testimonials from professors and students, letters from community partners, etc).

C. Service-Learning opportunities:

Michele and Diane will continue to work with Dave Lockett (Principal at Jefferson Elementary) in keeping UWSP involved with the 21st Century Grant. However, UWSP will not be named a formal partner in the grant. Instead, UWSP will continue to work with local elementary schools to provide volunteers.

While the Garden Learning Club won't be a part of the 21st Century Grant, we will continue searching for funding sources and faculty interest to support the idea (and to take our time to plan the project more carefully before rushing into it).

D. Campus conversation regarding the definition of Service-Learning.

Beginning with our meeting in February, we will move forward with our plans to initiate a campus definition of service-learning. James and Michele will pull together some sample definitions (mission statements) regarding service-learning to aid in this conversation. If anyone has some favorite / preferred definitions of service-learning, please send them along to James and Michele.

E. CAESE's summer course re-design program:

Michele, Patricia, Shari, and James will be meeting next week to discuss the details of this program. More details next meeting.

Announcements & Up-coming Events:

- February 16, 2007: Day-long teaching colloquium on service-learning. More info here:
<http://www.uwsp.edu/admin/acadaffairs/caese/Conferences/ServiceLearning/index.htm>
 - Registration is STILL OPEN.... PLEASE ENCOURAGE FACULTY TO REGISTER!!!
- Spring Semester 2007 Brown Bags:
 - February 2nd 1:30-2:30, LRC 507 "Connecting to the Community" (CANCELED, folded into Service-Learning Colloquium)
 - March 2nd 1:30-2:30, LRC 507 "Funding a Service-Learning Course"
 - April 6th 1:30-2:30, LRC 507 "Creating effective Reflection for Service-Learning Projects"