

**Alignment and Coordination: Curricular and Co-curricular (ACCC) Committee
Meeting #6 - August 9, 2006
OMSI**

Attendees: Dick Knight (Saturday Academy), Mary Beth Horton (BEC), Marilyn Johnson (Director of R&D, OMSI), Ray Vandiver (VP Exhibits, OMSI), Amanda Thomas (Coordinator of Adult Learning Programs, OMSI), Michal Young (UO), Don Domes (Hillsboro High School).

Summary

Grant award:

ETIC has awarded the ACCC/OMSI request for \$24,633 for fostering a co-curricular STEM educators network. The dog has caught the car – what do we do now? How do we make this as valuable as possible for the participants?

Logistics:

- Amanda Thomas will be Coordinator of the launch event, envisioned as a workshop or miniconference.
- OMSI does view this as an OPAS workshop, no problem as branding it as such. Dick: branding needs 3 pieces
 - name, theme, tag line (as a launch)
 - OPAS – sponsored by ETIC
 - OMSI
- Date window is tentatively a Monday in late January or early February.

Goals:

- Ray: The goals of this go all the way back to the OPAS Summit in September 2005. One of the attractions of the OPAS Summit was its heroic goal. Can we do that for co-curricular/informals, by bringing together informal STEM education providers across the state:
 - Frame this not as an event, but an entry point or mobilization of something bigger.
 - Restricted to providers of STEM activities. Bringing them together in the same room – who are the players?
 - to coordinate efforts
 - Input from formal educators and the people being served:
 - What do educators want out of co-curriculars?
 - Who speaks for the home-schooled?
 - Who speaks for underserved groups?
 - Look for a level of external validation.
 - Strategize
 - to increase effectiveness,
 - cross-promote
 - get the word out to students, parents, teachers, after-school providers

- Enable new collaborations which will allow pursuit of monies not available to them individually.
- make sure these programs are available to students across the state, ensuring a holistic approach to STEM enrichment in Oregon.
- Share models, best practices, and potentially other resources;

Outcomes:

- establish a functional, ongoing network of such providers (Texas has one);
- Give attendees a story to take back to their respective organizations;
- produce a white paper documenting the proceedings;
- use updated information from providers to enrich the BEC Technosupersite.

Issues/ Structure:

- **Open issue:** can we get some funding for sub costs for classroom teachers?
- Dick: Block out critical issues and opportunities, then let that dictate the form of the day. How do we make this worth somebody's day?
 1. Clarify unmet needs through panels or other process.
 - A fall pre-survey is planned – days, date windows, what providers want to see. Dick requests basic data – how many kids served, ages, dollars spent in delivery.
 2. What is and what should be the mission for informals for the next decade?
 3. Reaching different demographic groups
 4. Do we need to see new opportunities for collaboration among informals?
 5. Pass along STEM expertise to those groups whose expertise lies with serving the underserved
 6. How can we as a group be more effective in delivering to the community?
 7. If there is something that can go on that creates a challenging vision of the future, a speaker, whatever – new needs, new methods, new approach
 8. Use this as an opportunity to provide more clout for the whole community of STEM informals in general
 9. Get some data.

Potential invitees:

- (Marilyn) Lynn Dierking from OSU's Free Choice Learning group could inform us a lot.
- (Dick) NWREL. Tap national networks.
- Can invite opinion leaders such as senators, but speakers should be chosen on their content and commitment – be intentional and selfish: are we trying to impress them that we exist? Are we trying to move them toward action? All concur that inviting them as participants preferable.
- Can we find Steve Day's counterparts (Science Curriculum Specialist) in other districts? Some larger districts have some; most smaller districts don't.

Action Items/ Next Steps:

- Dick offers the ACCC committee as a program committee, with appropriate additions yet to be identified.

- All committee members: Once the notes are published (done 8/23/06; raw form available 8/10/06), look at how we are going to chunk the agenda. Identify 3-6 main topics and ideas of how to address them.
- By the end of September: list of targets, finished survey.
- Jo's Miscellaneous logistics: coordinate with Rebekah Jones, OMSI, on meeting room and refreshments for next meeting (done 8/23/06); add Amanda, Marilyn, and their boss Ron Barnes to the ACCC listserv and committee roster on the webpage (done 8/23/06 & prior); get Ray a higher resolution logo file (in process, 8/23/06); ask Di Saunders for a marketing representative for this committee (done 8/23/06); add survey link to ACCC webpage (done 8/23/06).

Steering Committee Update (Dick):

- There will be another large meeting of the players; most likely direction to converge around the issues, converge on position papers formatted as 1-2 page issues briefs.
- Ray offers the use of OMSI's facilities for this event free of charge.
- ACCC's concern that the issues of pedagogy, standards, and teaching methodology/ style and the need for more depth vs. less prescriptive fact mastery has been adopted by both the Steering Committee and the Standards, Courses, and Curricula subcommittee, so we will lay that charge down.
- Bruce has been creating a model capturing the types of education from traditional to flexible, which is evolving into a useful framing device for people thinking about these issues.
- The Marketing Committee has been polishing a graphic called "The River" which presents the creation of engineers and applied scientists as the harvesting of a natural resource rather than a pipeline that needs a wrench.
- (Jo) The Student Success: Access, Motivation, Retention (SAMR) subcommittee has released a survey "Sparking Interest in Engineering" aimed at high school and college students interested in engineering and young professionals. The link is http://opas.ous.edu/Committees/SAMR/Survey_Choice.html and has been added to the lower left column of the links table at the top of the ACCC webpage at <http://opas.ous.edu/Committees/ACCC.html>. This may produce some anecdotal evidence of interest to ACCC.

Next Meeting: Monday August 28, 10:00 am at OMSI

Discussion Details

Don –his hot button is a date for this conference, especially if you want curricular people there. Avoid regular school days, near major tests.

Ray – OMSI has two major exhibitions that they'd like to avoid. Want the window from Jan 1 to May 1.

Marilyn – suggests January, last week. Suggests Monday because Friday traffic.

Don – avoid FLL tournament. (Jo notes date has not been set yet; probably 1/13 or 1/20/07.)
What about non-contract days? President's Day.

Amanda – what about driving conditions?

Don – what about second week in Feb? What about sub costs?

Don – do we have a target to ID who should come? Who should do presentations? Do we do open call?

Dick – we will get to that. First, discussion around how we can maximize value.

Dick: Many of the money people have declared the problem of girls solved.