

Evolution Learning Community
Executive Council Meeting with Provost Paul Hosier
July 12, 2007
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Provost's Office

In attendance: Tricia Kelley, Dale McCall, Tom Schmid, Provost Paul Hosier

Executive Council met with Provost Paul Hosier to review recent progress of the ELC, participation of UNCW in American Democracy Project, and plans for next year, and to confirm support from Academic Affairs for ELC program.

The following items were discussed.

Recent activities

- American Democracy Project National Meeting.
 - TS/PK attended sessions and presented UNCW programs: *Brown vs. Board of Education* (TS) and ELC (PK)
 - UNCW not listed on roster of ADP participants – email needed from Chancellor to George Mehaffy: PK agreed to draft email
 - Constitution Day at UNCW could explore 1st Amendment issues related to ELC: PK to contact Johnson Akinleye who will coordinate Constitution Day activities
- PK visit to NSF to explore funding opportunities for ELC
 - Research Experiences for Undergraduates – proposal in preparation for Conservation Biology REU Site in paleontology, archaeology, and biology with students recruited from minority institutions: PH suggested Hackney and Posey have contacts at Elizabeth City SU
 - Division of Undergraduate Education supports faculty development initiatives and collaboration with community colleges: PH suggested taking advantage of UNCW cooperation with Cape Fear, Brunswick, Coastal Carolina, Southeastern, James Sprunt community colleges
 - Informal Science Education – partner w/ libraries, churches, museums (community organizations); Continuing Studies

Plans for AY 07-08

- In place:
 - PK involvement with Marine Quest
 - Continue designation of 5 Cahill Awards as ELC-related
 - ELC Executive Council presentation of Continuing Studies “Super Saturday” on “Evolution and Darwin”
 - Honors 120 enrichment seminar scheduled for Galapagos trip, S08
- In development:
 - Submission of at least 3 NSF proposals (one is partially completed)
 - Constitution Day activities
 - Darwin Day activities
 - Screening of *Flock of Dodos*
 - ELC-related speakers

- Galapagos trip – additional courses to be added, logistics finalized
- Advertise and/or invite Visiting Darwin Scholars (also check on UNCW housing opportunities including through Creative Writing)
- Plan/call for papers for student conference in S09
- Plan for Nobel Laureate convocation
- Plan for ELC-related *Ecotone* and/or student publication
- Cultural events
- Collaboration with CTE, University College, department chairs

Provost confirmed generous support pledged to ELC on 2/1/07:

- support for Visiting Darwin Scholar program
 - \$50,000 pledged
 - Consider \$65,000 if situation merits it
- summer salary for PK equivalent to teaching two summer school courses (already received with thanks!)
- stipend for Patricia Kelley's PhD student Christy Visaggi to assist in administering the program (\$16,000)
- speaker support \$5000
- support for *Ecotone* \$3000
- teaching reduction of 1 course/semester had been granted for PK to administer ELC program, but failure of GAG chair search precludes this use of funds; perhaps consider alternative use of these funds
- Provost will speak to Sherri Batson about setting up fund for ELC

Student conference in S09

- will require extensive planning and support
- meeting announcement should go out next spring – Provost's office may be able to provide support for advertising with year-end funds
- should include graduate and undergraduate students
- possible link to NC Academy of Science (Dave Webster has been involved in NCAS)
- use CAA schools poster session as model (used School of Education facilities, housing in nearby motels) – space can be made available if plan ahead
- Provost willing to provide support for conference

Diversity will be major push in next AY; Provost issued challenge to include diversity in ELC initiatives