

Evolution Learning Community
Meeting of Executive Council representative Kelley with Assoc. VC Johnson Akinleye
7/16/07

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Vice Provost's office

ELC Executive Council member Tricia Kelley met with Johnson Akinleye, newly appointed Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Programs, to discuss ELC and American Democracy Project, specifically Constitution Day. The following items were discussed.

Kelley presented background information on ELC program including:

- Purpose of the ELC
- Development of program, including grassroots effort by faculty, administrative support, activities to date, and plans in progress for activities through 2009
- Connection with ADP established summer 07 with Schmid/Kelley presentation at ADP national meeting on *Brown v Board LC* and ELC

Link with American Democracy Project:

- Origin/goals of ADP as national multicampus project sponsored by AASCU/New York Times to “develop informed university graduates who are committed to lives of engagement as citizens in a democracy”
- UNCW connection through ELC
 - ADP strong support for science (“economic competitiveness, security, and prosperity depend in large measure on its scientific and technological innovation” – ADP website)
 - Evolution education is public policy issue
 - First amendment issues (freedom/establishment of religion)

Ideas for Constitution Day

- UNCW required to hold “educational program on the US Constitution on September 17 for students served by the educational institution”
- No format specified for Constitution Day activities, but must involve students
- Theme of First Amendment issues would tie in well with ELC
- Groups to involve in planning: University College, Education, Honors, Political Science, History, ELC leaders
- Urgent need for planning so faculty can include in syllabus
- Possible activities could include town hall meeting, panel discussion moderated by students, outside speaker (e.g., New York Times speaker), showing of *Flock of Dodos*
- Once theme and format are settled, budget can be developed

Action items:

- PK will contact New York Times re speaker availability, cost if any
- JA will announce at Deans Council 7/16/07
- JA will get group together preferably 7/23/07 to begin planning
- JA will put date on University calendar
- JA will contact Bethune College re funding for civic engagement activities