

Evolution Learning Community
Full Committee Meeting
August 25, 2008
12:30 – 1:40 pm, Leutze Hall 246

In attendance: Bruce, Dutton, Fritzler, Furst, Gessner, Herman, Hooker, Horan, James, Kelley, Lema, McCarthy, McCartney, Proukou, Schmid, Sepkoski, Sizemore, Southwood, Visaggi

1) Kelley reported on activities since previous meeting

- ELC publicity
 - ELC-related courses flyer produced by CRW Publishing Laboratory (Emily Smith)
 - Student conference postcard produced by Marketing and Communications (Mark Hurt) – 2500 postcards printed, need to be distributed regionally
- Galapagos trip scheduled for May 2009 (2 Honors courses + Continuing Studies)
- REU in Biodiversity Conservation 6/4 – 7/31/08 – 9 students from across US
- Website redesigned (www.uncw.edu/evolution) – Fritzler reported he has included a blog and will be adding information re Darwin Scholars
- Student conference
 - Keynote speakers Buss and Padian have been secured
 - Ned Irvine's Intermediate Graphic Design class will produce art show
- ELC Executive Council meeting with Provost Chapman – Provost is very impressed by program and supportive of our work, but was not yet able to confirm the commitments made by Provost Hosier

2) Upcoming events:

a) Kelley reminded group of the following:

- Visiting Darwin Scholars
 - Niles Eldredge, “Darwin: Discovering the Tree of Life,” 9/17/08 – Sepkoski and Kelley are hosting; sign-up sheet passed around for participation in activities associated with his visit
 - Richard Leakey, “Why Our Origins Matter,” 10/13/08 – Hooker reported that a discussion will be held with UNCW faculty and students in the afternoon; he will be interviewed for UNCW TV; dinner will be held after his talk – please remember THE LECTURE IS A TICKETED EVENT
 - Tina Gianquitto, 11/5 – 11/7/08
 - Eugenie Scott, 1/29/09
 - Dirk Robert Johnson, “Nietzsche's “Anti-Darwinism”: The Origins and Development of an Antagonism,” 2/9/09
 - David Quammen, 3/30 – 3-31/09
- LA Theatreworks production of *The Great Tennessee Monkey Trial* 2/18/09
- Student conference 3/19-3/21/09

b) *Ecotone* special issue, January 2009

- Gessner reported this is going well; additional contributions by science and fiction writers would be welcome (submission deadline 10/1/08)

- Schmid asked if requests should be made of Darwin Scholars
 - Gessner will write up such a request
- c) *Journal of Effective Teaching*, special issue fall 2009
- Herman reported that call for manuscripts will come out in next issue of JET (5/1/09 submission deadline, published 9/09)
 - ELC members will be asked to review manuscripts
- d) Dutton reported that College Day is scheduled for 10/25/08 – Scott James will speak on ELC-related topic
- 3) Topics for discussion:
- a) Reading groups re Visiting Darwin Scholars
- Bruce asked if there would be interest in sponsoring Honors/ELC reading groups
 - Could add Honors 120 course in spring so students would receive credit for participation
 - Begin reading groups informally this fall (e.g., for Leakey talk)
 - Gessner suggested reading *Reluctant Mr. Darwin* for Quammen visit in spring
 - Proukou suggested using “Great Decisions” program as a model; invite community
 - Bruce and Proukou will meet to discuss
- b) Darwin Year kick-off party – no decision made; Kelley and Visaggi will discuss
- c) Constitution Day
- Fritzler reported that Library has made some plans; he will investigate linking with ELC
 - Horan suggested linking to PIA activities re elections
 - Schmid pointed out Constitution Day observance must be 9/17 (PIA activities later than that)
- d) Faculty grants –
- Meinhold has indicated Cahills will be targeted again for ELC-related work
 - Kelley encouraged ELC members to apply (5 ELC Cahills funded first year; we had no ELC applications last year although James received ELC/CTE award)
- e) Darwin Day options
- Panel to build interest in *Great Tennessee Monkey Trial*?
 - Dutton will sponsor panel for Continuing Studies – dinner followed by panel; students could attend panel
 - McCartney and Sepkoski interested in participating
 - Birthday party
 - Bruce suggested birthday cake for campus
 - Darwin look-alike contest?
 - Gessner suggested unveiling of *Ecotone* evolution issue to conclude Darwin Week
- f) Student conference 3/19-3/21/09
- Next steps in organizing – Kelley will get subcommittees together
 - Keynote speakers – need at least one more speaker (subsequent to meeting, van Tuinen secured Mindell for conference speaker)
 - Publicity

- Herman suggested using CTE contact list
- Honors distribution list – Bruce will forward electronic postcard
- Karen Sandell may have Graduate School contact list

g) Other ideas

- Ben Stein’s “Expelled” movie
 - Furst may be able to acquire screener copy
 - Film has been controversial – ELC members would like to preview a copy before making decision about how/if to schedule public viewing
- Plans for library
 - Use wall of library for larger public showing of art exhibit (subsequent to meeting, Fritzler booked first floor art wall for August – October 2009)
 - Library display case – Fritzler already reserved front glass case for 1/09 to promote Darwin Scholars, theater production, Darwin Week events (subsequent to meeting, Fritzler also booked it for August - September 2009)
 - May be able to post materials in library vestibule (need ask Sherman Hayes)
 - Herman suggested putting link on front page of library website
- Additional publicity ideas
 - Gessner suggested “Thirsty Tome” could relate to ELC next year
 - Hooker suggested asking Caroline Cropp about link on UNCW homepage
 - Sepkoski suggested posting Senate resolution
 - Dutton suggested working with Cindy Lawson; Proukou can also help
 - Sepkoski asked if logo had been designed for ELC; Kelley and Visaggi will meet with Mark Hurt to pursue
 - Hooker stated that reservations office can allocate bulletin board space
 - McCartney suggested Re:Search article on ELC