



INSTRUCTION NEWSLETTER

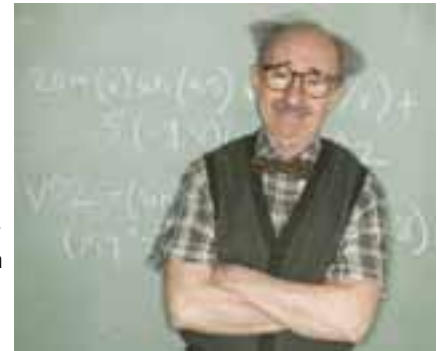
MARCH 2008

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MARTENS MUSINGS

The arrival of 2008 brings with it the realization that our 2010 Accreditation visit is just two years away, and that it is time to start organizing our plan for the self-study leading up to the on site visit by a team of collegial peers selected by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, our accrediting body. While this seems as distant as to not even seem worth thinking about, the truth is that optimal time allotment for a self-study is two years.



The other hard truth is that while the entire institution comes under scrutiny, it is the instruction, faculty, and students that are really at the heart of the study. The annual NWCCU workshop held in Seattle every February prompted me to invite several folks to attend to begin to map out our strategy. April Doolittle, Interim Academic Transfer Dean, Linda Foss, long-time assessment committee member, and Doris Wood, self-study chair in 2000, and I attended. The nine (9) standards each institution must meet are basically the same as they were in 2000; however, the focus has shifted from description to assessment and synthesis. In other words, it's one thing to say you do things and vital to collect examples of assessment of those things. However, it is the interpretation of that assessment and how you determine future planning that is where the spotlight will shine.

To our credit, we have put a number of things into place since the last accreditation visit when one of our "recommendations" was to get a systematic, instructional assessment plan in place that actually did something. While many may chuckle about the ARF system, it is in place and has been viewed as beneficial. The administration has also put Policy Governance in place which addressed another concern that the commission identified during the last visit. Those are both significant improvements recognized by the commission during both our focus and interim visits.

The college must now map out a strategy for approaching this self-study. We are all busy people and it would be easy to view the accreditation process as an inconvenience imposed by the Commission. In reality, it is an opportunity to compare who we are with who we purport to be. Ultimately, we should come out of the process a better institution. More later..



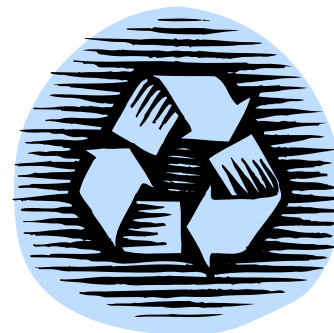
NOTES FROM FACULTY

LYCEUM PRESENTATIONS FOCUS ON SUSTAINABILITY

Patrick Pringle recently delivered a Lyceum presentation "Climate in Perspective: Earth's Climate History". This is the latest in the Lyceum series focused on "Sustainability: The Shifting Dynamics of Power". (See the schedule for the remaining Lyceum presentations for this quarter on page 6.

Don Foran reports that we have the largest number of Centralia College students ever enrolled in Winter Quarter's class: 72. For any further information contact Don Foran at Ext. 276.

Steve Norton was a Lyceum presenter in the Fall Quarter lineup. "Life Amidst Death: Diving the Graveyard of the Atlantic" highlighted some of the work that Steve had done in diving and provided the audience with a virtual field trip exploring the amazing organisms that have colonized shipwrecks and natural rocky reefs off the coast of North Carolina. Shipwreck sites included the USS Monitor, the USS Schurz, U-Boat-U-352, and the tanker Papoose.



SCIENCE FACULTY ATTEND CONFERENCES

Pat Pringle recently attended the Murdock Trust Partners in Science conference in California. He and Jo Martens received a Partners in Science grant designed for collaboration of public school and college level instructors. Pat served as a mentor for Jo, and he reports that Jo did an excellent job in her oral presentation at the conference. This was the final year of their grant based on "Use of Radiocarbon Dating and Dendrochronology to Investigate a Possible Submerged Forest in Eld Inlet".

Pat recently served as a referee for a paper for the [Bulletin of Volcanology](#). In addition, Pat is hard at work finishing up the editing changes in his second book whose completion will be an event worth celebrating. He also was able to select some rock samples from the University of Washington's Burke Museum who were in a discarding process updating their collection. Pat says he picked up some great samples that will look wonderful on display in our new building.

Steve Norton attended the Western Society of Naturalists' Conference in November where he presented "Warning Coloration and Mullerian Mimicry by Chemically-Defended Gammarid Amphipods". In layman's terms, Steve described the ability of individual local marine fish, the Sculpin, to learn to recognize the distinctive coloration of a potential prey that is protected by a chemical defense.

Education is the ability
to listen to almost any-
thing without losing your
temper or your self-
confidence.

[Robert Frost](#)

US poet (1874 - 1963)



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The English/Communications Department is anticipating using part of this quarter's Assessment Day, March 17 to work with Kathy Brooks who will be guiding the department through the process of building web pages.

Adjunct English department instructor Dr. Rosemary Reigle has just received word that her book *Poetry for Women of the 21st Century* is going to be published either late this year or early in 2009. The book is a combination of her poems along with her photos of flowers and trees. Rose has included pictures from her garden as well as from some spots on our campus.

Dr. Don Foran recently received notification that his poetic reflection, "This Too Will Pass" was published in Pacific View by TYCA, the organization for Two Year Colleges Teachers of English.

Doris Wood recently gave a presentation at the Centralia Timberland Library entitled Thurber: the Man and his Humor. These library presentations are sponsored by "Friends of the Library.

Linda Foss was recently notified that she has been selected for Honorable Mention in the 2008 Diana Hacker TYCA Awards for Outstanding Programs in English for Two-Year Colleges and Teachers in the category of Reaching Across Borders. Linda's submission of the WOWL "Washington Online Writing Lab, a project featuring four Washington Community Colleges collaborating on an online writing lab, was judged innovative and exemplary of high standards. TYCA is the community college sub-group of National Council of Teachers of English. Foss says that the WOWL is on tap for presentation and a plea for continuance at the April meeting of the Washington Distance Learning Council, so this recognition will be a timely support. The award will be presented at the national conference in New Orleans on April 5.

The Writing Center is doing some outreach to Developmental English classes with funding from the Student Achievement Initiative to determine how the center can better serve these students and ease their transition into college-level work. A retreat for DVED faculty is planned for winter quarter Assessment Day as a follow up to the Program Review Randy Johnson has completed.

ETS TAPS CC FACULTY

Several of our faculty have been invited to be Readers for Educational Talent Search. This is the College Board's annual reading session when student papers in Advanced Placement classes are adjudicated. Jody Peterson will be reading in the European History section, and Randy Kostick and Dan Taylor will be working with AP math papers. This is certainly an affirmation of the high quality of our faculty. Congratulations!



What is important is
to keep learning, to
enjoy challenge, and
to tolerate ambiguity.
In the end there are
no certain answers.

[Martina Horner](#), *President of Radcliffe College*



COLLABORATION: GREAT THINGS HAPPEN

There is now student art displayed on what was once a blank wall in the Writing Center in Kemp 105. Linda Foss, coordinator of the Writing Center overheard Penny Martindale lamenting the lack of space to showcase student art work, and voila, an idea was born. Now a device somewhat like a clothesline allows wonderful display space on what was once a blank wall. Great collaboration!

Professors Donna Huffman, Julie Priday, and Laura Yocom have scheduled a variety of opportunities to serve as mentors/facilitators for collegial discussion throughout the year. During fall quarter, invitations were issued for lattes and later in the quarter for Christmas cookies. On January 25, "Hot Soup and Hotter Conversation" was the focus, and advance information says a baked potato bar is planned for late February. Excellent opportunity to meet and mingle.



STEM FOCUS FINDS FACULTY VISITING HIGH SCHOOLS

As part of the college's effort to provide a focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), instruction and SAAT are collaborating on visits to our service district public schools. Heidi Dearborn, SAAT Director, and some Student Government representatives will be joined by Pat Pringle, Steve Norton, Randy Kostick, and Michael Threapleton on visits to Adna, Rochester, Onalaska, and Toledo during the month of February.

The Centralia College Electronics Club has hosted some very interesting speakers. Steven Kaeler, a retired Boeing engineer, talked about Robotics Sensors on Jan. 17th. and on Jan 31 Michael Laine of Liftport discussed his company's efforts to build a space elevator. All presentations are at noon in Kemp 129.

HYBRID CLASSES, ONLINE LEARNING, MOODLE; WHAT'S NEXT?

Penny Martindale reports that this quarter the Art Department is offering its first course that uses an online component for half of the interaction. Graphic Design 1 is using Moodle to critique design drafts for assignments. It is also used to communicate all course information and resource links. Penny reports that this mode of delivery is somewhat time-consuming, more so than one might suppose. Penny notes that "online critiques encourage each and every student to respond in written form to several online drafts presented each week. This mirrors online communication in the professional world of graphic design."

Linda Foss's Creative Writing class which is a hybrid online and face-to-face course this quarter is going well she reports, although she, too reports that this is time-consuming and there is definitely a learning curve for both instructor and student as you work through the technology that is integral to this delivery. She also reports that Kathy Brooks has been a fabulous resource in her new position as support person for faculty who are developing online classes. In fact, Linda suggests you check out NING at <http://elearningcentralia.ning.com/profile> if you'd like to ask folks working with some form of online learning their opinions.

Tadd Belden is also using online course delivery for his four Criminal Justice classes. He has approximately 50 students mostly from Washington. One difficulty Tad has encountered is the college bandwidth. Between the hours of 10 am and 2 pm when everyone is working online, it is really difficult to get on. He also discovered that some of the text publisher's resources did not entirely work with Blackboard. He, too, received assistance from Kathy Brooks in sorting out some of these issues.

Courage is doing what you're afraid to do. There can be no courage unless you're scared.

Eddie Rickenbacker

US WWI aviator & businessman (1890 - 1973)



PROGRAM REVIEW PRESENTATIONS AT IC

During winter quarter the following programs/departments have presented their completed program/curriculum review projects to members of Instructional Council: Accounting presented by John Fasler, Diesel Technology by Ken Rakoz, and English/Communications by Doris Wood. These presentations reflect a year-long process culminating in action plans for continued development, assessment, and curriculum development.

Gloria Price reports that CC's Early Childhood Education Program has recently completed an articulation agreement with St. Martin's University. Students will be able to transfer to St. Martin's with an AAST/AA in Early Childhood Education into SMU's Elementary Education major whose classes will be offered at CC beginning Fall Quarter 2008.

Belinda Hill from St. Martin's University held a meeting on campus on Feb. 11 for students and faculty who were interested in learning more about their education program which is slated to begin on our campus fall of 2008. With the final cohort of the WSU 2+2 Elementary Education BA slated to graduate on April 27, the knowledge that SMU will be available on campus in addition to City University, students are assured that a BA education program will be available to them. For further information about SMU's program at CC, check with David White, Ext. 229.



NEW INSTRUCTORS

CC has two new CET instructors this year---Jacob Lund and Ann Alves. Both of these folks came to us straight from industry. Their insight about CET has provided some impetus for the development of some new classes that will make the program much more relevant to the types of work and roles our students will see once they get their first engineering, surveying, or construction support position in the public or private sectors. Two new second year CET courses are CET 262 "Hydrology and Stormwater Management", and CET 270 "Elements of Engineering Design". Jacob reports that with these courses, students will be able to apply concepts learned in previous classes, thus tying the whole program together instead of feeling like they are just taking a bunch of classes. Jacob reports that the CET Advisory Committee, community professionals in the field, are excited about the changes and are anxious to see them take shape.

NURSING

LPN and RN students are having valuable learning experiences at Providence Centralia Hospital on the Medical, Surgical, Transitional Care, and OB Units as well as opportunities to work with health care providers in a number of the hospital-based support services (Respiratory Therapy, Physical Therapy, Laboratory, Staffing Coordinator). LPN students are also spending a day in OB and Pediatrics offices. RN students are at a variety of community sites including Cascade Mental Health, Assured Home Health & Hospice, Sound Home Care and Hospice, Pope's Kids' Place, Morton Hospital Wound Care Program, Green Hill Training Center, and Lewis County Jail.

One of the LPN program's valuable clinical sites, Evergreen Health and Rehabilitation Center, closed following the flooding in December. The Spring quarter LPN Leadership Clinical has been welcomed by Riverside Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Nursing faculty are using Moodle, an online course resource, to communicate with students and post class handouts and lecture notes. This saves paper and printing costs and is working well for both students and faculty.

Simulation (SIM lab) learning is being integrated into the curriculum for both RN and LPN students. RN students have been participating in test review sessions (heart failure and ischemic stroke) in SIM lab to apply theory concepts as well as practice hands-on skills.

We don't receive
wisdom; we must
discover it for
ourselves after a
journey that no
one can take for
us or spare us.

Marcel Proust

*French novelist
(1871 - 1922)*



NURSING CON'T...

Nursing Club is planning to participate in American Cancer Society's Relay for Life (May 16-17) again this year.

Sheri Keahey, pro-rata nursing instructor, will have an article published in the March/April online issue of Journal for Nurse's in Staff Development. Title: Against the Odds: Orienting and Retaining Rural Nurses.

Applications for the 2008-09 LPN and RN Program classes were due February 15. Students will be receiving acceptance letters by mid-April.

LYCEUM SERIES: WINTER QUARTER

Sustainability: The Shifting Dynamics of Power		
Date	Topic	Presenter
2/13	Salmon vs. Dams	Dr. Jim Walton
2/20	Sustaining the Dream: Children and Their World	Dr. Ike Pope
2/27	Wilderness in Literature: Reality and Metaphor	Dr. Don Foran
3/05	Biodiversity: Nature's Treasure at Risk	Dr. Lisa Carlson
3/12	China: Slumbering Giant	Dr. Jody Peterson

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Editor's note: In the interest of supporting the paperless sustainability principle, a limited number of the 3rd ed. of the Instruction Newsletter have been printed. The latest edition can be found on the Intranet. Go to <http://intranet.centralia.ctc.edu/> and click on Instruction under the Departments. Scroll down until you see the heading "Instruction Newsletters". Click on the edition you would like to view and/or print.

Doris Wood, Editor, ext. 319

Cheryl Williams, Production, ext. 484

**CENTRALIA COLLEGE****LEARNING ABILITIES THEMES:**

- **Reasoning.** The ability to extract information from data, develop ideas and solutions, establish logical progression in thinking, and problem solve using such procedures as literary analysis or the scientific method.
- **Written, Oral, and Visual Communication.** The ability to make oneself understood in public, interpersonal, professional, artistic, and technical arenas.
- **Exploration—Self and Others.** An awareness of the values, beliefs, customs, and contributions of persons from one's own and other traditions, ethnicities, classes, and genders.
- **Resourcefulness.** The ability to adapt to change, such as technological innovations or environmental conditions.
- **Responsibility.** The ability to be accountable to self, society, and the natural world.