



COOPERATING RALEIGH COLLEGES MINUTES

CRC Student Affairs Officers Committee

Meredith College

Friday, April 13, 2012

1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

In attendance: **Meredith College:** Jean Jackson, Vice President for College Programs; Ann Gleason, Dean of Students. **Saint Augustine's College:** Marquita Wood, Assistant Dean of Students and Residence Life. **NC State University:** Tom Stafford, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. **William Peace University:** Jerry Nuesell, Dean of Student and Academic Services; Aaron Todd, Director of Advising and Learning Services; Elizabeth Talley, Raleigh Promise Fellows Liaison. **Cooperating Raleigh Colleges:** Jenny Spiker, Director.

Recognition of Dr. Stafford: Dr. Tom Stafford will retire at the end of this year after 45 years at NC State University and 30 years as Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. He invited the group to his retirement event on April 23. He and his wife will also receive an arts award this spring. The group extended its congratulations and best wishes to him, and Ms. Spiker thanked him for his important, long-term service to Cooperating Raleigh Colleges.

Updates from campuses:

William Peace: Jerry Nuesell talked about Peace's transition to a coed university this fall. The first orientation for male students will be in August. They expect between 55 and 70 men to be in the first class, about a quarter of the class. Two of the residence halls will remain all females and two others will have one level for males. They are having to rethink nearly everything about student services with this major change.

Saint Augustine's: Marquita Wood talked about their plans to become a university starting this August. She said the strongest emphasis on their campus has been student retention.

Meredith: Jean Jackson said the new president Jo Allen, the first alumna president, was recently installed and the college is fully engaged in strategic planning.

NC State: Tom Stafford said the main contact for this committee is now Lisa Zapata. He alerted us to watch for upcoming announcements about some structural changes at NCSU that have grown out of his campus' strategic planning.

Featured Discussion Topic: Issues related to Social Media

The group brought up both the advantages and disadvantages of social media use for their students and institutions. Some institutions have had to deal with harassment issues as they've appeared in social media. Several have media literacy classes or workshops to help students with appropriate use, especially as applied to students' professionalism and reputation management. The campus police departments sometimes use social media to monitor potential problems. Some of the advantages are using social media to promote events and services on campus and to keep in contact with students on important issues. Several mentioned using social media dashboard sites like Hootsuite to manage social media use.

CRC update from Director Jenny Spiker:

- **The Raleigh Promise.** Jenny provided updated information on the progress of the six colleges' portion of The Raleigh Promise of the RCCC (Raleigh College and Community Collaborative) funded by the Gates Foundation to target student success of Raleigh residents attending a post-secondary institution in Raleigh. Elizabeth Talley from William Peace, one of the six liaisons who direct the programs, was in attendance and added her observations about the effort so far. She and Jenny emphasized how extensively the team of six liaisons has been working together to create a pilot program to enhance retention efforts already in place. The liaisons have met weekly all year, have contacted the students eligible to be Raleigh Fellows, hired interns, created student leadership teams and been working with other RCCC actions teams on such projects as life coach training and connecting to the community-based College Center at the Chavis Community Center in Southeast Raleigh.
- **Activities from other CRC committees.**
 - **Involvement in the City**—A group of science professors has met with the director of the new section of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences about involvement with faculty and students in their new laboratories and other education programs, including the opening this month of the new wing.
 - **Kinds of activities from other committee**—The academic officers this year took on the topic of tenure policies during an intense one-topic session and the library group is organizing another summer professional development workshop. Another ad hoc group has been looking at ways to integrate NC State graduate students and postdoctoral fellows into the liberal arts colleges, and another group is exploring ways to coordinate efforts with adjunct professors.

Ideas for future meeting topics or projects: The group discussed the following topics for future meetings:

- **Student health insurance.** Ann Gleason said that this becoming an issue most institutions are dealing with and exploring options. The other colleges agreed that this is a topic that would warrant exploring together. Tom said that Bruce Mallette is the person in the UNC system who is the best source for background on the state system's approaches. One observation was that social media make it difficult to help students (and staff) understand the fuzziness between public and private lives.
- **Shared student transportation.** Jerry Nuesell said Peace has been looking at ride sharing, and the other representatives said they agreed it would be good for CRC to look again at ways to work with the City of Raleigh and other agencies such as the Downtown Raleigh Alliance on this topic.
- **Explore joint degrees.** Among the changes on the campuses are some merging of academic and student services functions so the discussion turned to how some majors are being phased out or reduced and that it might be good for CRC to look at ways to work together on some majors or programs.

Recommendations: For next year the group recommended we have a fall meeting with the top student services/affairs officers and then a larger workshop/seminar meeting in the spring to bring in a broader cross-section of student services personnel. Possible topics could be exploring service opportunities in the community and student health insurance.

The host for **next year's meeting(s)** will be NC State. Jenny will meet with Lisa Zapata to begin organizing for the 2012-2013 year.

--Submitted by Jenny Spiker