



COOPERATING RALEIGH COLLEGES

CRC Student Affairs Officers Committee Minutes

Wake Tech Community College, Public Safety Education Campus

Thursday, September 29, 2016, 10 a.m.

Convener: Committee Chair Rita Jerman

In attendance: Rita Jerman, VP for Enrollment and Student Services, Wake Tech Community College; Bobbie Cole, Director of Residence Life and Housing, William Peace University; Gaddis Faulcon, VP for Enrollment Management and Student Services, Saint Augustine's University; Ann Gleason, Dean of Students, Meredith College; Stan Elliott, VP for Student Affairs, Shaw University; Jenny Spiker, CRC Director.

Welcome and Introductions: Rita welcomed the group to one of Wake Tech's six campuses, the Public Safety Campus, and everyone introduced themselves.

Presentation: John Kornegay from Wake Tech gave a presentation on the Single Stop program they are a part of. Key points:

- It pulls resources from the community—one stop shop for students to get connected to benefits so that financial barriers don't keep them from staying in school.
- It's partnering with a non-profit. Also partnering with Wake County Public Services.
- It's important because more than half of community college students drop out because of financial barriers.
- It uses a variety of methods to connect students to community resources.
- Activity examples (legal clinics, tax preparation services, affordable care act help, non-cash programs, food pantry, financial counseling with Suntrust Bank, food stamps, community nonprofits that help with utilities)
- It is partially grant funded.
- Single Stop in other states—started in NY—was a poverty prevention program and then joined with community colleges.
- Four North Carolina community colleges are the first to use the new software system.
- Now reaching out to HBCUs.
- 201 students served so far.

Committee members' questions:

- Ann Gleason asked if they have to address stigma issues. John said they have a variety of ways to deal with that.
- Ann also asked if they need to have a certain percentage of PELL eligible students to take part and John said no.

It was suggested that CRC may want to look at connecting with this group to involve more of its members.

Project Reports: Jenny reported on CRC projects that have developed or continued since this group's last meeting.

--**New community service leaders committee:** At the suggestion of this committee, CRC formed last spring a committee of the community service leaders on the campuses. She pointed to the minutes from that meeting that stressed how many ways all of our members are involved in the community. One of the group's ideas for the future is to plan an event where community members can learn about the collective impact of having all of these campuses in the area and find out ways to collaborate on more projects.

—**Triangle United Way social entrepreneurship project:** Soon after the community service group was informed the United Way of the Greater Triangle contacted CRC to invite our members to take part in their Generation Next-College

Edition project so they brought that proposal to our community service group. Then those members took the idea to their campuses to decide whether to take part. She drew their attention to the sheet with a summary of the project and upcoming dates. Its purpose is to highlight college entrepreneurs who are committed to addressing social issues facing our communities. The kickoff site for student pitches will be at Saint Augustine's on MLK Day, Jan. 16.

---Career Center leaders committee: This is also a new committee that began meeting last spring. Among the projects the group was most interested in pursuing was creating a CRC road trip to visit employers or specific parts of the community like downtown or RTP.

---Emergency management workshops: This project that was initiated by this committee and the finance officers committee is ongoing having had five workshops. A sixth one had to be cancelled this past July because the presenter was ill, but that one has been rescheduled for Nov. 15. It's on Violence Prevention and Threat Assessment.

---Staff professional development: This is a new group formed this fall to meet for the first time on Oct. 19. Two Meredith employees suggested it as a way for CRC to consider collaborative activities for professional development for staff members. She showed the group the list of committee members.

---Transportation: She alerted them to the press release from the City of Raleigh about three more CRC schools joining the city's GoPass program. Those are Saint Augustine's, Shaw and Wake Tech, and NC State and Meredith have been part of it for a number of years.

--HR discussion about exempt-non-exempt employee changes: The human resources leaders met on Sept. 22 to help each other with the changes underway for exempt-non-exempt employee designations. They spent two hours going over all the details and issues they are all working on for the Dec. 1 deadline.

Discussion Topics:

- **Engaging students with student activities:** This discussion focused on the challenges of keeping students on the campuses on the weekends and providing activities that they enjoy. Among the comments were that students prefer activities that students themselves plan and they tend to prefer events with some kind of admission price over free ones.
 - **DECISION:** CRC to convene the student activities directors and have each of them bring a student leader to the meeting.
- **Exempt-non-exempt employee issues:** A major discussion took place about the challenges these leaders are having with preparing for the Dec. 1 deadline for the FLSA (Fair Labor Standards Act) dealing with exempt-non-exempt employees. Many of their positions are affected, such as residence hall counselors and assistant coaches.
- **Civil communication and Inclusion:** Another topic that stimulated sharing was the many ways civil communication is being challenged on campuses. Social media makes this particularly challenging, as was indicated by some posts the night before this meeting on the NC State campus. People can be more brazen, and often the incidents can't be addressed by conduct or judicial boards because they either are seen as first amendment rights or are not addressed to specific individuals. Some schools are working on bias incident protocols. Several people said they thought inclusion had become a more pertinent issue than diversity. Ann Gleason said Meredith has created a civil communications work group. Paper Clip Communications does trainings on inclusion. A number of people said that student affairs leaders need to understand how this college generation has different approaches to communications than those of their generation. This whole topic may be a good topic for a CRC workshop.
- **Transgender students:** Several of the schools are developing policies for these students. Some are doing Safe Zone training. One of the most difficult aspects is fear of isolating students who don't want to be isolated but accommodating those who do want some isolation.

Next meeting: The group wants to have a spring semester meeting, in particular to talk about how the exempt-non-exempt changes are progressing.

--Submitted by Jenny Spiker