North State ROOTS, Office of Civic Engagement (OCE)
Wednesday, December 1, 2021 Meeting Agenda

Announcements
North State Economic Forecast Conference: January 27 in BMU
   - Deadline to apply is January 20th (Workforce focus)
      - Attend virtually or in-person

Attendees: Amy Magnus, Ann Schulte, Teckla Johnson, Amber Noel-Camacho,
Dave Tanner, Courtney Farrell, Emilyn, Jason Schwenkler, Logan McAndrews,
Matt Thomas, Patrick Newell, Priya Tuvell, Tanja Ramming, Tatiana Ybarra, Anna Carson

Discussion about Giving Back Home:
- Dave Tanner, McConnell Scholars
  - Scholarship, $30,000 reward access for 6 years, 5 counties, not Butte County, Community-centered students. No GPA requirement
  - 89 students who attended Chico State (26 students now)
  - Focus on their influence in school community and community back home
    - Volunteer requirement of 25 hours a year (changes due to COVID)
    - Usually volunteer in college community but has been changed due to COVID as well as students wanting to volunteer closer to home
    - Purpose of volunteering outside of community: build newer and better connections
    - Link with Giving Back Home - want to encourage students to give back to their community/come back home and also provide them with support and resources
    - Future meeting with scholars and Ann - how to give back to their community (February)
      - Experiences at Chico state, feel connected, future resources, structuring service component, as well as address their desire to give back and feel connected to their communities
  - Emilyn – finding a suite of complementary programs that connect people together, allow for conversations to be flowing and available.
  - Tanja Rammings - Modoc: well-connected to communities, education, and workforce; create a database where people are looking for volunteers and workers.
  - Having opportunities for students to participate in work and volunteering at Chico State to model what it would look like if they took it back home?
  - Dave Tanner - being aware that small towns are already close and the power in those connections. The volunteering goal should be to help the volunteer connect with individuals and community in order to form an identity.
    - Addressing people with historically marginalized identities who may not feel safe or wanted in their home communities - how would they be supported?
  - Matt Thomas - Chico State students are usually aware of where they want to apply but with no connections, while home volunteers have an idea of opportunities but not what they want to do
    - Need prompts on the application form that helps them engage with something they feel passionately about
      - For example: "How would you like to make a difference in your community that you think needs change?"
      - “Do they feel welcomed at the school they attend?”
      - “What does it feel like when they return home?”
  - Looking for connections for students to latch onto, as well - Trinity Together, for example
● Teckla Johnson, Trinity Together event today
  o Trinity Together Event tonight
    ▪ Elevate youth voices and connections between generations to create better learning environments
  ● Bring community together and have dialogue, work with people that employ youth
  ● End with workshops, one for adults and the other for students
  ● Bringing in Chambers of Commerce to discuss education and the workforce
    o Bridge generational gaps and misunderstandings to create a platform and safe space to discuss these issues
  ● Ann: Intended to create recommendations for policy level change for RSC grant
    o Red Bluff, Paradise, and Trinity
    o Student policy recommendations and feedback
  ● Emilyn: esheffield@csuchico.edu; 530-570-9855
    o CaliforniansForAll Americorps grant: California Climate Action Corps: students working on community climate action, working with paradise, tribal council, etc.
      ▪ College: Ecological and food insecurity
      ▪ Paradise: rebuilding after fires
      ▪ Civic engagement, lowering cost of college for students, and building support for community action
      ▪ Wanting to connect with area Community Colleges
    o Anyone in North State who might be interested in CA Climate Action or CA College for All Corps - feel free to share my info with them or share their info with me.

Updates
● NREA conference (Ann)
  o Five students from rural high schools
    ▪ A Lot of opportunity, get to play sports, Spoke of limitations as well
    ▪ What would you want the leaders to know/take with them?
      ● Themes of inclusion (LGBTQ+ community), connected (supported, mental health support), use their preferred names and pronouns
● Building Rural Community Learning Systems: CivicLab Rural Grant (returning incompleters) (Ann)
  o Working with adult students with some course work but not completed degree – not sure if Chico State was able to get on this grant or not
● Rural Postsecondary and Economic Development Grant (rural student access, persistence, and return) (Ann)
  o Increase college access and encourage rural youth to return to their communities
  o Hard to qualify for; 30% rural students need to be attending to be eligible for grant
  o Last year rural schools gave feedback to the feds that we need more time and support from fed gov to complete and qualify for grants, and not happened yet

Patrick Newell (Library)- access to medical literature to professionals through grant opportunities
  -Stonewall group-funding to create collections for underrepresented groups
  -Will share some more articles and will provide access if others need it (list attached)

Priya Tuvell - pmtuvell@csuchico.edu
-Some students that are writing grants for their parents' farms/ranches, and I'm helping them (and anyone else interested) with that process. (climate awareness and procedures in farms)
-You can see more info here
-Example of giving back and could be used by McConnell Scholars

**Additional Resources**

Bre Holbert, Chico State alum, writes some thoughtful columns for AgDaily, with several about equity and justice in agriculture.

The Rural College Student Experience is a podcast dedicated exclusively to centering rural college student voices in broader conversations about higher education access and equity. Hosted by Dr. Matt Newlin (www.mattnewlin.com), each episode will feature a co-host who is a currently enrolled student from a rural community. Co-hosts will share their perspectives on higher education and the needs of students from rural backgrounds.

Recent Rural Sociology journal article about rural college graduates and their inclination to return back to their communities after college

Meetings will be on Zoom, Wednesdays 12-1, on the following dates.

- Feb 16
- Mar 23
- Apr 20
- May TBA (Celebration in person?)