

'ACTION CONVERSATIONS:' REPORTING TEMPLATE

Date, Time, and Place of Conversation: September 15, 2104, ; BMU 220D

Duration of the Conversation: one hour; noon-1:00 pm

Convener: Knight, Vela, Herren

Moderator: Knight & Vela

Reporter: Vela

Number of Participants: 5 including conveners

Type of Participants: faculty, staff, dean

Theme # 3: Building Community

The major ideas / proposed actions / implementation steps/ assessment of priorities emerging from this conversation are:

(Use as much space as is required to share content of conversation)

- CAVE is an already existing structure that builds community and connections outside of campus. A mechanism to give students practical experiences and applications of classroom knowledge. CAVE. Also looks for better ways for students to mentor new students. CAVE mostly civic engagement. Mentoring is crucial for community building. It promotes culture, cultural change, and continuity.
- Culture is of engagement, but new habits of contributing to the community can be constructed.
- FYE, Great debate, etc. are community creating events already in play.
- Community college partnerships/collaborations are important. Need to be strategic about how to best utilize resources with respect to recruitment, information sharing, etc., for students who may or may not end up coming to Chico. Simply reaching out to community's college administrators can help create conditions leading to better communication, collaboration, and community.
- North State Initiative a good example of outreach to the wider community. Perhaps creating a 'Community Liaison' office, a point of entry that enhances the ability for the community to better

engage with the campus; a sort of one stop point of information. A front door entrance. PASSAGES is an example of 'no wrong door'.

- Related, creating a shared database of contacts that fosters greater inter connectedness.
- How do we help foster connections beyond the Northstate? How do we leverage our technology to connect with community's colleges and high schools? Meeting f2f is good, but we shouldn't limit our communication / outreach to f2f modes of interaction. An example is engage with high school AP classes and our Book in Common.
- Another simple way to connect faculty at different campuses is to coordinate timing of class offerings, etc. to foster campus collaborations.
- Student mentoring program. We have several. How do we know how effective they are and how are we sharing that information. Thia Wolfe has collected data on this and did a campus outreach last spring. Looking to enhance the project this coming AY.
- Any efforts to creat a 'common core' for peer mentors across campus? Likely there are substantial overlap in good practice. This could be applied to TAs. Perhaps a series of workshops on different topics. Similar idea could be used to train tutors.
- Incoming transfer students are in need of mentoring! We need to help transfer students as well as first year students. Academic probation rates the same for transfer and first year students. Are we helping them to succeed? One way is to determine the students who are here via the 'guaranteed transfer' agreement. Spring admission ... How do we help THEM become WildCats?
- Finding more ways for people interested in community to talk about how each approach the topic with respect to their own unit? Perhaps developing a mentoring workgroup. Also, incentivize faculty to engage in conversation (e.g., get continuing education credit for attendance by community colleges, etc.)