

FOUNDATIONS OF EXCELLENCE

Liaisons' Report

Spring, 2007

by

Ann Fellingner and Amy Baldwin

Progress to Date

Pulaski Technical College has good reason to be proud of its progress to date on the Foundations of Excellence self-study. So far, the process has been on schedule, and over 70 people have volunteered to serve on Dimensions Committees. In addition, administrators, faculty, and staff have volunteered their time, energy, and ideas to support the work of the Committees and the process as a whole. PTC has embraced this project, and we are beginning to see the fruits of this labor.

Fall 2006 Activities

- ☑ Successful launch of Foundations of Excellence project in August
- ☑ Twice-monthly Steering Committee meetings
- ☑ Regular Dimension Committee meetings
- ☑ Completed Current Practice Inventory (CPI) in FoEtec on time
- ☑ Presented information about FoE to PTC Board of Directors
- ☑ Participated in conference calls with Policy Center
- ☑ Hosted other Arkansas FoE participating two-year colleges for an information-sharing day
- ☑ Submitted three of nine Dimension reports (Philosophy, Campus Culture, and Organization) on time
- ☑ Liaisons met with each division to discuss FoE and "The 155"
- ☑ Visit by John Gardner, Task Force Advisor
- ☑ FoE Celebration in December

Spring 2007 Activities

Foundations of Excellence activities began immediately upon return from the winter vacation. Two Steering Committee meetings took place in January, as did a conference call with the Policy Center in which participants discussed how to write Dimension reports and the final report. In addition, Diversity and Learning Dimension Committees were hard at work preparing their reports for a February due date. While some Dimension Committees have had people resign, new volunteers for the Dimension Committees have replaced them almost immediately. Dr. Jim Bruns, PTC's Task Force Advisor, visited campus on January 29 and 30, and he was pleased and complimentary of PTC's process on the project to date. He met with campus leaders and with each Dimension Committee, and he was able to share his wisdom and expertise about the FoE self-study process and information about implementation in the second year with PTC faculty, staff, and administrators. In February, Ann Fellingner and Amy Baldwin will present with the three other Arkansas FoE institutions in Dallas at the Foundations of Excellence winter meeting. The title of the presentation is "Foundations of Excellence in the Two-Year College: An Arkansas Perspective," and each college will discuss its FoE experience to date, including opportunity and challenges.

April is FoE Month

April will be a busy month for Foundations of Excellence activities. All Dimension reports will have been completed, and the Steering Committee will begin its discussion of the writing of the Final Report. During the two scheduled Steering Committee meetings, we will review the revised Dimension reports and share each Committee's findings with the group; both meetings will be open to the entire campus. On April 11, Dr. Robert Mock from UALR and Dr. Sally Roden from UCA will join Ann Fellingner and Purnell Henderson to take part in a session entitled, "FoE Dreams and Realities." Dr. Mock and Dr. Roden are FoE veterans who will share information about their experiences working on FoE and implementing the FoE plan at UALR and UCA, respectively. Representatives from each Dimension Committee at PTC will present a brief overview of its findings. This session is open to the entire campus.

Task Force Advisors

Two task force advisors are available to answer any questions about Foundations of Excellence. Feel free to contact them:

John Gardner gardner@fyfoundations.org
Jim Bruns brunsjp@gmail.com

Want to Get Involved?

It's not too late! The FoE process will continue through the entire academic year, and input is needed at every stage in the process. Please contact Ann Fellingner (afellinger@pulaskitech.edu) or Amy Baldwin (abaldwin@pulaskitech.edu) if you'd like to be a part of this exciting opportunity.