

College of the Redwoods/Humboldt State University Liaison

Meeting Notes
November 4, 2008
Lakeview Room, 10:00 a.m.

Humboldt State University (HSU) President Rollin Richmond and Provost Bob Schneider were invited to meet CR's administrators and managers at a regular CR manager's meeting.

Dr. Marsee opened the meeting by introducing Dr. Richmond and Dr. Schneider, explaining that he had previously attended a similar meeting at HSU, and he provided a few examples of formal and informal ways in which the two institutions have collaborated or might collaborate, mentioning the California Center for Rural Action, nursing education, native American students, the Pre-16 council, and applied, industrial education.

Dr. Richmond explained that HSU is having issues with its accreditation by the Western Association of States and Colleges (WASC). He explained that HSU lacks a unified vision of where the university is heading, characterized by decentralized, fragmented program planning. The university needs to improve the program prioritization process and develop a process for connecting academic programs. Dr. Richmond expressed interest in an ongoing liaison group between the two institutions to work on several initiatives and asked CR's managers for feedback on whether this is a good idea and how it should be structured.

Dr. Marsee asked for a show of hands to indicate managers who are already collaborating with HSU in various ways, and many hands were raised. Several managers offered information about collaborations with HSU they have been involved in. A few examples include:

- Tracey Thomas, Director of Disabled Student Programs and Services, mentioned conversations with her counterparts at HSU to discuss technology infrastructure, compliance issues, and web access for students.
- Steve Stratton, Co-Director of Information Technology Services, mentioned the contract with HSU for the point-of-service transaction system.
- Lynn Thiesen mentioned her collaboration with HSU Financial Aid Office, especially with respect to veterans.
- Paul DeMark mentioned the historical collaboration between the colleges to recruit students to the area, and he also asked a question about developmental math and English courses.¹

¹ Dr. Schneider mentioned that HSU is studying the SDSU/San Marcos model to determine appropriate next steps related to developmental courses. He referenced union issues as well as faculty reticence on both sides. He noted that ultimately any decisions should be based on what is best for students on both sides.

- Michael Regan mentioned the transfer center, and Dr. Schneider mentioned the importance of checking to see if transfer activities should be organized with respect to specific programs.
- Dr. Marsee mentioned meeting an HSU graduate at Science Night who was taking courses at CR to gain needed job skills. Dr. Richmond mentioned the importance of a coordinated 2+2 program, specifically noting HSU's lack of lab resources in the area of applied technology.
- Kathy Goodlive mentioned the decline in the number of international students at CR. Dr. Marsee mentioned his effort to correct this by asking St. Bernard's to include information about CR in their overseas recruitment packets. Dr. Schneider noted that HSU has done a lot of work to bring international students to the university, and he informed the group that HSU will likely hire an international programs director.

Distance Education: Dr. Marsee asked Dr. Richmond to speak about HSU's vision for distance education. There was mention of collaboration between a community college and Hayward State to offer a CIS program online. Dr. Richmond mentioned Carl Hansen, HSU's Director of Extended Education, and noted that HSU is currently only offering 13 courses online. He noted that NSSE (National Survey of Student Engagement) results have indicated a need to provide faculty incentives for developing online courses. Dr. Schneider noted that at this time, HSU's distance education program is currently limited to an internal initiative only.

IR Director Martha Davis asked a question about online course retention and success rates, and Dr. Richmond responded that although online success is a concern, distance education is also a way to serve Native American students and others in the community.

Dr. Marsee mentioned the double-digit growth in private, for-profit institutions of higher learning and noted that most of the growth is occurring in the online sector. Dr. Marsee mentioned that his vision for CR is to eventually offer 1 in 5 courses online, and to use distance education as a way for CR and HSU to be a national and international generator of degrees and generate revenue for the community. Martha mentioned the importance of providing training for faculty developing courses online.

Other examples of collaboration between the two institutions:

- Ahn Fielding noted a collaboration between the CR Foundation and HSU's Advancement Office to prepare a grant to the Department of Labor regarding technology-based learning.
- Joe Hash mentioned CR's desire to use HSU facilities for intramural and aquatic program activities, particularly to provide options for the residence hall population.

Dr. Marsee mentioned the desire to subsidize a Sunday bus service for residence hall students to access Eureka. He mentioned that CR may spend up to \$150,000/year to ensure bus service for students and asked Dr. Richmond about opportunities to

collaborate. Dr. Richmond explained that HSU students pay \$15/semester and receive access to any transportation service in Humboldt County. The use of this option has reduced the impact of automobile parking on HSU's campus. Dr. Schneider added that the parking fees subsidize the bus service.

Dr. Richmond proposed a formal liaison group between the two institutions, and agreed to send a draft agenda a list of recommended participants from HSU to Jeff for review.

Notes submitted by Roxanne Metz