

WNYSLC Annual Meeting

October 15, 2009

3-4 p.m.

Daemen College Business Building Rooms 107/109

Welcome and Introductions

The October general meeting also serves as the WNYSLC's annual meeting, providing the opportunity to look at the past year and plan ahead for the upcoming year.

Membership Business

By-Laws Vote

A few slight changes were made to the by-laws. The Education and Programming Subcommittee was added and the Audit Subcommittee was removed. The Education and Programming Subcommittee helps identify and plan programs throughout the year. The Audit Subcommittee is not necessary at the current time, as Daemen College is a 501(c)(3) and the Coalition's fiscal sponsor. An audit for Daemen is performed yearly; the Coalition is included in this audit. The checks and balances that are in place for Daemen are also in place for the Coalition.

Carmaletta Morlock-Zandi moved to accept the changes to the by-laws. Sister Sally Maloney seconded the motion. The vote was approved unanimously.

Steering Committee Members Introduced

Danielle Woodman Kehoe of Daemen College and Carmaletta Morlock-Zandi of The Morlock Foundation are departing from the Coalition's Steering Committee. They are thanked for their dedication and service to the Coalition and the Coalition's mission.

Marilyn Sozanski and Mary Ellen Mulvey were introduced as the newest Steering Committee members for the WNYSLC. Marilyn Sozanski has a long history of working with service-learning students. She was most recently with Science FirstHand. Mary Ellen Mulvey is from Medaille College and has been instrumental in developing a core group of faculty who are dedicated to service-learning and has coordinated service-learning efforts on Medaille's campus.

Subcommittee Co-Chair Needs

All subcommittees have two co-chairs - a community partner representative and a higher education institution representative - to ensure both sides have an equal voice. Co-chairs are needed for every subcommittee. A description of the subcommittees was distributed to clarify the roles and responsibilities of each committee. Meeting frequencies and times vary by the activities of the communities. Anyone interested in serving as a co-chair or who would just like more information on the committees should contact Stephanie Malinenko. Serving on a subcommittee is a great way to increase your participation with the Coalition and a natural opportunity for networking.

Year in Review

The first WNYSLC Annual Report was distributed to those in attendance. The annual report

was a joint effort on behalf of the marketing committee, who came up with the concept and wrote the articles. All WNYSLC members not in attendance will be mailed a copy of the annual report. Carmaletta Morlock-Zandi and Danielle Woodman Kehoe, outgoing co-chairs of the WNYSLC Steering Committee reviewed the past year.

Membership

The number of community partners doubled. The list is included in the middle of the annual report.

All higher education institutional partners pay modest annual dues. Despite the current economic climate, the Coalition retained all higher education institutions and expanded its membership. Two new higher education institutions joined the Coalition: Hilbert College and SUNY Fredonia. The addition of these institutions and the interest of some other area universities are really helping to grow the Coalition as a regional coalition.

Events

The 2008 Service Learning Conference at Buffalo State hosted 125 participants. The 2009 Fall Service Learning Conference is October 23 and 24th at Medaille College. The cost to register is \$95 and scholarships are still available.

In February, over 80 people attended a regional roundtable with Dr. Andy Furco.

In May, 32 faculty members from partner institutions participated in a three day training on service-learning. On Day 3 of this training, community partners and faculty had the opportunity to meet each other and discuss possible collaborations. These meetings resulted in a number of newly formed relationships, including one between Erie Community College and Buffalo Urban League, who received a grant from the WNYSLC and Oishei Foundation to aid their project.

Quarterly meetings focused on specific topics, including service-learning and refugees and financial literacy. These meetings also provided a chance to network and share information about existing programs that use service-learning programs.

Technology

The WNYSLC Database (www.wnyslc.net) went live this spring. Usage of the database is beginning to increase. Community partners are encouraged to enter their project information into the database. Projects can be copied from semester to semester. The deadline to enter projects into the database for consideration for the spring semester is November 15th. Faculty and service-learning coordinators are also encouraged to enter their course information into the database. Once they have been input, courses can also be copied from one semester to another. WNYSLC staff is available to help anyone who may need it, via phone, email or in person.

The database is still new, so everyone is encouraged to contact WNYSLC staff with issues or suggestions for improvement.

Buffalo Rising's founder created a new interactive website to promote Buffalo and WNY as a college town. This site for students that went live this summer.

www.estudentnetwork.com uses a map tool that allows students to drop "pins" on places throughout the city that they want to share with others. The Coalition is interested in the project because it will provide service-learning students the opportunity to identify where they did service-learning and write about their projects. The site also has blog capabilities for students to write more in depth about their experiences.

Discussion

The question was raised about putting together a journal of student pieces. This raises some privacy issues since so many reflection activities are personal. A working group could be formed to look at publications. The WNYSLC could also post links on the website under "Resources" to journals that accept proposals for articles on service-learning and community engagement. Students can be encouraged to post articles on estudentnetwork.

A question was also asked about student participation in the coalition. Students are welcome to attend some Coalition events, but most of the Coalition's work is to bring together community partners and higher education institutions and build relationships.

Future Meeting Topics and Event Ideas for Upcoming Year

January will be the next general meeting. Time, date and location have yet to be determined.

Possible meeting topics for future meetings include:

- Social enterprise/innovation

- AmeriCorps Opportunities and connections

 - This may work well as a half day event also.

- Legal and Health Issues – safety, background checks, risk management, responsibilities
"Nuts and bolts"

If anyone has any other ideas for general meetings or other events, please let the WNYSLC staff know.

A speed networking event will likely be held in early part of the Spring 2010 semester.