



Friday, March 7, 2008

"New knowledge is the most valuable commodity on earth.
The more truth we have to work with, the richer we become." -Kurt Vonnegut

Where the Action Is

- Academic Senate
Fri, 3/14 1:00-3:00 Board Room
- Academic Standards and Policies
Fri, 3/14 3:00-5:00 LRC 107
- Academy of the Redwoods Advisory
Fri, 3/14 1:00-3:00 PS 119
- Accreditation Steering Committee
Tues, 3/11 3:30-4:30 Board Room
- Assessment Team
Fri, 3/14 1:00-3:00 LRC 107
- Board of Trustees
Tues, 4/1 2:00-5:00 Board Room
- Coordinated Planning Council
Fri, 3/7 9:00-11:30 Lakeview
- Curriculum Committee
Fri, 3/14 1:00-3:00 Lakeview
- Facilities Committee
Fri, March 14 Time/Location TBA
- Institutional Effectiveness
Wed, 3/12 12:00-1:00 Board Room
- Multicultural and Diversity Committee
Fri, 4/4 11:30-1:00 LRC 107
- Program Review Committee
Fri, 3/14 9:00-11:00 Board Room
- Technology Advisory Group
Thurs, 3/13 8:30-9:30 Board Room

Integrated Planning

The newly-established **Assessment Team (AT)** is dedicated to improving student learning by promoting institutional effectiveness through the use of assessment at CR. The group will serve as a resource for faculty and staff involved with assessment activities and is currently working to become familiar with current trends and best practices in outcomes assessment. The AT is also conducting a survey of the annual and comprehensive program reviews and course outlines to determine the status of outcomes assessment at CR. Some of the ongoing dialogue the AT is having about assessment revolves around these critical questions:



- What is assessment and why should we do it?
- Where and how does assessment fit into what happens at CR?
 - Course level?
 - Program level?
 - Institutional level?
- What is assessment *not* for?

The AT has agreed that our course, program, and institutional assessments are *not* evaluations of individual faculty or staff and that assessment is *not* something we do simply for the sake of doing of it. The AT's interest is in promoting and supporting the continuous improvement of student learning. The AT is excited to be involved with this endeavor and welcomes ideas, suggestions, and ongoing feedback from the college community. A website will be available soon to facilitate an exchange of ideas and information on assessment. In the meantime, please communicate your thoughts, knowledge, expectations, and desires on outcomes assessment to your AT members: **Susan Nordlof (co-chair), Cheryl Tucker (co-chair), Martha Davis, Melissa Green, Roxanne Metz, Crislyn Parker, Keith Snow-Flamer, Mike Wells, Pat Girczyc, Maggie White, Justine Shaw, Dan Calderwood, Aeron Ives, Ruth Rhodes, Leslie Leach, and Sean Herrerra-Thomas.**

Data Watch

Spring 2008 enrollments compared to Spring 2007 enrollments as of 3/4/08 (includes census roster data)



Eureka	+2.0%
Del Norte	+14.9%
Mendocino	- 2.2%
Virtual Campus	+72.7%
Eureka Downtown	+1.3%
Arcata	+3.2%

Did you know...

- ◆ **The DSPS Faculty Resource Guide** has been updated to address the most frequently asked questions of DSPS staff. If you'd like a print copy of the guide, contact DSPS or download one @ <http://www.redwoods.edu/District/dsp/Faculty-Handbook/>
- ◆ CR has formally initiated a search to fill three full-time, tenure-track faculty positions for the 2008/09 academic year. The Eureka-campus **Art, Sociology, and Mathematics** position announcements came as a result of recommendations to President Harris from the Academic Senate, which developed and used in fall 2007 the "Provisional Process for Faculty Prioritization." This process relied primarily on district-wide staffing needs data expressed in program reviews, and the Senate will review, revise, and make permanent this data-driven prioritization process in fall 2008.

You need to know...

- ◆ Looking for a way to contribute directly to CR's efforts to grow enrollment? Want to meet CR's next incoming class of students? Then you should volunteer to guide campus tours for CR's annual **Redwood Days on May 19-22** on the Eureka campus. Redwood Days is for all local high school seniors, and it allows CR to effectively provide orientation, academic advising, and class registration assistance. Tours will be led between 11am to 1pm, and they serve as valuable opportunities to introduce ourselves and our campus to prospective students. Please contact **Jennifer-Bailey@redwoods.edu (x4267)** if you are willing to sign up for this important event!
- ◆ **March 28** is the last chance for the **Curriculum Committee** to act on course outline updates and inactivations before the Accreditation Progress Report is sent to the ACCJC. Please pour on the steam and get those updates and inactivation requests to the **Maureen Scott by Friday, March 21**. Every outline that we address has a positive impact on the currency of our course inventory.
- ◆ Don't miss the **2008 Art Faculty Exhibition** on display in the **Creative Arts Gallery** through **March 27** featuring a diverse selection of recent work by 16 Eureka campus art professors. Imagine translucently luminous cellular structures—enormously magnified—spread across the wall and sparkling like stained glass...well, actually, you don't have to imagine. Just gaze at sculpture professor Shannon Sullivan's wall-mounted installation on display. And check out Cynthia Hooper's paintings inspired by the make-shift housing strategies of the fluidly and precariously expanding working class communities of Tijuana, Mexico. These paintings explore the use of recycled garage doors from tear-downs in San Diego to make sturdy, four-walled Mexican homes for *Maquiladora* workers. Painting professor Emily Silver is showing a suite of watercolors that map the terrain of Mojave Desert walks she has taken. Emily affixes the richly-hued Mojave soil she's collected right onto the surface of her paintings. And digital art professor Michael Jenner's photograph of an amusement park's *Tilt-a-Whirl* is a thrilling swirl of elliptical motion—luminous, abstracted motion captured by her camera's delayed exposure. Ceramic professor Mary Mallahan's *Mesolithic Intrusion* is—upon initial inspection—a ceramic vase inspired by her interest in geology and the surface textures of rocks. With closer scrutiny, however, the form subtly references the fertility idols of our Paleolithic past. This little sculpture reflexively compels its viewers—with all its mysterious power—to reverently worship it.

These and many other fine artworks are on display. Please call Susan Metzger x4558 for more information and for gallery hours.



★ **Steve Stratton, ITS**, who continues to provide strong leadership to the Technology Advisory Group as it creates and clarifies its role in college-wide planning. ★

★ **Ron Cox, acting VP Business Services**, who has been proactive in making discussions of campus renovation and new building projects more inclusive and transparent. ★

★ **Dave Bazard, Geology**, who has been selected by his peers to serve as MSE division chair for 2008-2010. ★

★ **Michael Thomas (Philosophy), Justine Shaw (Anthropology), and Helen Edwards (Business)**, who have all completed their first term as division chairs and have been selected by their peers to continue providing leadership to their divisions for 2008-2010. ★

★ **Tony Sartori, Chemistry**, who provided excellent leadership as the MSE division chair from 2006-2008. ★

Have an item or idea you'd like to see included in the next *Linkages*? Send a note to **John-Johnston@redwoods.edu**

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