

Preliminary Minutes
Science and Mathematics Education Center
Advisory Board Meeting
Thursday, February 16, 2006

CALL TO ORDER

The presiding Director, Katrina Mangin, called a meeting of the SAMEC Advisory Board Meeting to order at 3:38 p.m., February 16, 2006, in conference room #531 of the Marshall Building, 845 N. Park Ave., Tucson, AZ 85721.

A quorum was present, including:

Steve Brown, Gail Burd, Thea Canizo , Chris Donovan, Dee Fife, Lisa Elfring, Stacey Forsyth, Rachel Hughes, Selina Johnson, Jim Knight, Katrina Mangin, John Madden, Gail Paulin, Lisa South, Jim Washburne and Suzanne Westbrook

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Mangin began by reviewing the agenda for the meeting. She then began discussion about the response from the External Review Committee.

External Review Board Comments January 26, 2006

- Would like the Sunset Review to sound more active vs. passive
- SAMEC to help coordinate UA speakers to classrooms
- Connection with industry is poorly developed and not addressed
- Concerned that there is a duplication of efforts. Suggested having a meeting/retreat with all outreach community at the UA to coordinate.
- Analysis in the review implies everything is great. Reality is that there is duplication of efforts.
- Want to see funding listed under "threats"
- Confused about the difference between what SAMEC role is not that BIO5 is going to do a big outreach database on their website.
- Fred Stevenson asked about SAMEC's role in promoting outreach events to the press. How can SAMEC help with this?
- Continued concern of role of SAMEC in math outreach. Math already has staff to get the word out and they need support for those staff
- Take advantage of new administration coming in to get a commitment for more support for science and math outreach at the UA
- Questioned whether SAMEC should serve colleges other than the College of Science – too big of a mission and the COS is effectively who we mostly serve now.
- Marleen Kotelmann expressed much appreciation for role that SAMEC plays in providing a liason between UA and K12

Board Comments

Steve Brown began the discussion by asking, "What is meant by duplication of efforts?"

Katrina Mangin shared examples such as websites. College of Science, SAMEC, and BIO5.

Steve Brown- Feels that it is insulting. We cannot control what others are doing. He discussed the NSF grant outreach component.

John Madden-Teachers see SAMEC as the coordinating entity.

Gail Burd-Information can eventually be funneled into one source.

Stacey Forsyth-BIO5 is creating a searchable database.

John Madden-Had not heard of BIO5 and their coordinating role

Gail Paulin-Feels that there is an audience that are familiar with SAMEC

John Madden-Teachers are looking for information that is already compiled. SAMEC's E-news letter gets current opportunities to teachers who don't have the time to filter through information.

Gail Paulin-The Pathways project is working on being able to customize to specific audiences. Question is, "How do we maintain connection?"

Steve Brown-The concept of duplication of efforts is still confusing.

Katrina Mangin-Look at possibly breaking up the SAMEC information into two sections, math and science. Would like to extend services and become more involved. See if we can get more involvement from math community.

Katrina Mangin-SAMEC can identify services and visit departments/colleges to "sell" SAMEC programs. Identify/connect with the representative from area for ongoing relationship.

Gail Burd-Link SAMEC on the College of Science outreach website.

Jim Washburne-Regarding newsletter-suggested using a subscription service to narrow the categories that are sent to each recipient.

James Knight-Believes that some duplication of services is okay. Discussed connecting with the College of Education. Specifically, contacting the dean, Dr. Ron Marx. Dr. Marx is active on the Governor's P-20 committee.

Katrina Mangin-She will write a one page response and email to Board for comments.

Jim Washburne-Where does Rio Nuevo fit? What is SAMEC's relationship with it?

Katrina Mangin-Science Center will be primary place that programs are offered. We are currently waiting for more direction.

Gail Burd-Look at merging SAMEC with the Science Center to work together.

John Madden-He is on the Board of the Science Center. Does not see as a division.

Stacey Forsyth-Science Center and SAMEC have different roles. Sees the Science Center as offering more physical space.

Chris Donovan-Believes SAMEC should not take a passive role. We need to tell them what we want and take an active role.

Lisa Elfring-Suggested meeting with the Science Center personnel.

John Madden-Mentioned planning meeting is coming up. Will send information to Katrina Mangin so that she may attend.

Rachel Hughes-SAMEC should develop a focus on UA outreach resources. This is an area that is not being addressed. Revisit working groups.

Katrina Mangin-SAMEC Outreach Meetings-look at scheduling speakers of interest/trainings (ex. "how to put together a press release") Review previous survey information.

Steve Brown-Try to get information into the "Wildcat". Put on UA Calendar-add on departmental list serves.

Gail Paulin-Look at NSF grants for information on current UA outreach programs. Ask UA to put a box on the form to designate whether focus in K-12, etc.

Katrina Mangin-How can we facilitate UA staff getting out to schools?

Gail Paulin-People do not want to be inundated with requests. Is there a way to have a clearing house?

Stacey Forsyth-That is one of the potential features of the BIO5 database.

James Knight-Recommend not losing a lot of sleep over the faculty. Focus should be on students. Already existing programs include, CATTs Fellows, Science Connectors, etc.

Thea Canizo-She has had some unfortunate experiences. Wants to make sure that there is communication with the teacher.

James Knight-Raise funds to support program to get UA into classrooms. Have a plan to facilitate/encourage participation.

Chris Donovan-See in-class visits as part of Science Center. Believes it is a decent role, not SAMEC role. Teachers usually already have someone else in mind.

Gail Paulin-Teachers need ability to prep/collaborate. Need orientation possibilities.

Rachel Hughes-Suggested having a kick-off event where scientists, outreach personnel, and teachers are invited.

GOALS

Dr. Mangin asked Board members to prioritize items on the "wish lists". She will email a copy to each person and get feedback to give further definition to SAMEC projects.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Dr. Katrina Mangin
Director