

Science and Mathematics Education Center
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 6, 2007
UA Gould-Simpson Bldg, Room 919

Present: Gilda Ballester (LPL), Steve Brown (Chemistry), Gail Burd (College of Science/MCB), Debbie Colodner (AZ Sonoran Desert Museum), Chris Donovan (Desert View High School), Elliot Lax (City High School), Tom Fleming (Steward Observatory), Selina Johnson (SAMEC), John Madden (Mountain View High School), Katrina Mangin (SAMEC/EEB) and Suzanne Westbrook (Computer Sciences)

Katrina Mangin, Director, called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

PENDING: SAMEC has not yet received final approval from the external committee for the *SAMEC Self-Study*.

The agenda included the wish list that was generated from the SAMEC Advisory Bd. Meeting Breakout sessions on September 5, 2005 and a typical week at SAMEC (Selina's average time spent at SAMEC). The committee was asked to revisit and review the wish list that was generated and also review Selina's time. After 30 minutes of individual group discussion, the groups reported as follows:

Group A: [Gail Burd, Chris Donovan, John Madden]

Items in wish list that were numbered as 4, 5, and 7 were grouped together (addressing teachers' needs such as professional development):

Most important: 1) Professional Development is first priority (e.g. Science Teacher's Colloquium Series); 2) Coordinate meetings in different disciplines (geosciences, biology, physics) and have representatives from different districts generate modules that they could plug into their grant (SAMEC would serve as the resource). [Note: Module example was explained as, "Chemistry professors could plug into their grants already written to work with Sunnyside to work on 'acid-based;' 2-day activity with teachers"]

Group B (Gilda Ballester, Steve Brown, Tom Fleming)

Most important: 1) conduit for UA K-16 faculty, staff and k-12 educators; 2) provide data for grant proposals, 3) promote outreach activities outside the UA); 4) SAMEC should be coordinating unit; 5) SAMEC should not raise funds; 6) SAMEC would be resource to help you find funds. Gail Burd questioned the need to have statewide district data other than for your personal report. Selina Johnson informed the committee about the new and improved ADE website that includes links to data portals such as the *County Educational Service Agency's* website: <http://www.ade.state.az.us/counties.asp> The agency provides links to statewide county superintendent websites. Each county website includes information on all public, private and charter schools in that specific county. The Pima County Superintendent's link to data for all schools. Selina gave an example of "clicking" on the link for Pima County data.

<http://www.schools.pima.gov/schoolsearch/SchoolInfoFileDownload.htm>

Group C (Debbie Colodner, Suzanne Westbrook, Elliot Lax)

Most important: 1) promoting interest in math and science (e.g. UA *State of Science* talk) through PR; 2) SAMEC website have good resource links including "responses to frequently asked questions"; 3) each semester SAMEC could email departments each semester to inquire about new programs and events; 4) coordinate with faculty about grants. Elliot suggested that we contact Volunteer Center of Southern Arizona to inquire whether they have donors to give talks. SciEnTek-12 has a list at their website of UA professors. The Science Connection also has a portal to request speakers.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Edited and Approved by Katrina Mangin: _____