

Holbrook Campus Planning Forum  
November 22, 2004

College Representatives Present: Dr. Richard Fleming, Blaine Hatch, Dr. Jeanne Swarthout, Brian McLane, Peggy Belknap, Everett Robinson, Terri Tubbs, Dan Simper, Dr. Richard Balsley, MiAnna Tyler, Russell Dickerson, Dr. Eric Henderson, Donna Ashcraft, Bobette Welch, Robbie Latham, Kim Sission, Rene Begay

Holbrook Community Representatives Present: Robbie Koerperich – Principal Indian Wells Elementary, Diana Armijo – ADOT, David Sikes – ADOT, Ferral Knight – Petrified Forest National Park/Holbrook School Board, Spike Simmons – Holbrook City Council, Gloria Kindig – Navajo County Superior Court, JoLynn Fox – Holbrook Tribune, Zelda Gray – Holbrook Chamber of Commerce, Rose Lee Jaquez – APS Cholla Power Plant, Linda Morrow – Navajo County School Superintendent's Office, Mary Koury – Superintendent Holbrook Schools, Sandy Bradley – Holbrook School Board, Sgt. J.C. Stanton – DPS, Cammy Darris – Navajo County Assessor, Linda Yazzie – Holbrook School Board/Greasewood Springs Schools, J. Merrill Young – Holbrook Fire Department, Mike McClellan – Principal Park Elementary, Greg Caffey – Chief Ranger Petrified Forest National Park, Vincent Bifano – Holbrook Alternative School, Jane Krahe – Regional Director AZ School for the Deaf and Blind, Jody Harrelson – Holbrook Police Department, Dr. Robert Wilderman – Community Counseling Center, Phyllis Romo – Constable #1/Romo's Café, Wendy Skevington – Holbrook City Library, Kim Belknap – APS, Amber Hill – City of Holbrook, Judge Tom Wing – Navajo County Superior Court, Kavika Stant – Holbrook Police Department, Ruth Creek-Rhoades – Student, Harry Lomahoma – Student, Bannon Lomahquahu – Student, Buddy Scott, Tim Dixon – Holbrook Police Department

Dr. Fleming introduced NPC people present and stated the purpose of our forum was to begin the process of gathering information for input into a new five year strategic plan. He asked each guest to introduce themselves as they made remarks.

Donna Ashcraft – NPC instructor: Sees a need for more daytime students. Classrooms are empty during the day. Dr. Fleming commented that the Barron building remodeling is in the planning stages. Hopes to bring all PDC facilities into one location.

Rose Lee Jaquez – APS: Need for industrial operations and maintenance programs to continue. It is a great working partnership – opportunities for hands on training. Must grow our workers for next 5- 10 year period expect a 60% to 70% turnover because of retirements.

Mary Koury – Holbrook Schools: In the past the schools and NPC partnered in use of the gym and use of a modular building for the Triumph Alternative School. Possible idea to use campus again for Triumph school during day.

Dr. Wilderman – Community Counseling Center: Continue workforce development. Partnership in training nursing students. Would like to continue to help train and hire those graduates. There is a need for Behavior Health Technicians – Associate of Arts plus 30 hours behavior credits.

Wendy Skevington – Holbrook City Librarian: Need better workforce development for people in age group of 22-30 years old not just for NAVIT age kids.

Rose Lee Jaquez: The power plant program is available for general public two nights a week. Any program available to NAVIT is available to general public.

Wendy Skevington: Then better PR to let people know what is available would be helpful.

Dave Sikes – ADOT: Need construction technology and heavy equipment operation training like the Central Arizona program. Surveying could be a possible NAVIT program.

Sgt. Stanton – DPS: Will the college be providing a law enforcement academy again in the future? The college provided a great program.

Dr. Fleming: The program really needs to be run full-time short-term and that requires dorm facilities that we do not have available.

Judge Tom Wing – Navajo County Superior Court: Does the college have an employment office/career services. Mark Vest: yes, just recently hired a new individual for that position. Judge: Please make sure they contact the County. Peggy: Did attend a supervisors meeting at one time and ask if any interns needed.

Amber Hill – City of Holbrook: If the athletic program has no hope of coming back, Holbrook needs a focus. There is a wonderful airport facility available in Holbrook and a flight school program could be a possible partnership. Peggy: The program has been offered in the past, but usually did not have enough enrollment to make the class feasible. Amber: Holbrook is a central location for all Native American tribes. A Native American art center possibly in conjunction with the Smithsonian project could be considered.

Linda Morrow – Navajo County Schools Office: ECD certification is being required. Teachers are now being required to have up to 45 and then 60 hours of ESL. Will need help providing that training. Jeanne: Possible partnering with ASU West for intensive summer courses is being investigated.

Zelda Gray – Chamber of Commerce/Historical Association: Appreciates college in community. She is a graduate. Possibly transportation to other sites should be provided to give students access to all programs. Need a construction class and put them to work to repair some of the city motels and then use them for housing/dorms.

Judge Wing: As the state of Arizona considers changing its higher education system are the community colleges being considered as part of the package? Dr. Fleming: assurances have been made that the progress in transfer articulation will be upheld. NAU will probably be increasing its distance education options.

Spike Simmons – Holbrook City Council: Very important that the City and the college bring its discussions on the joint project to fruition and not just let the time expire on the deal.



Linda Morrow: Are the rural colleges being represented in the higher ed change discussion? Dr. Fleming: The Arizona Community College Association has appointed representatives that represent all community colleges.

Spike Simmons: The hospitality industry important part of local economy. These workers need more training to learn to promote the area and the possibilities in this area. The business owners should also be trained!

Ferral Knight – Petrified Forest/Holbrook School Board: The Petrified Forest just nearly doubled in size. Possibilities of new programs for partnering with the college. It will be the premier Triassic site in the nation. Paleontology, archaeology and geology programs should be available. Every summer they hire students from other areas to do biological and physical science technician internships. Would like to use local students. Petrified Forest staff is available to lecture.

Linda Yazzie – Greasewood/Holbrook School Board: College needs to increase PR to the reservation and increase the enrollment of the high school students. Culinary arts is a program that she sees reservation students leaving to pursue in the Valley. Would that be a possible program for NPC? The college needs to target parents with parenting skills classes. It is very difficult to get good teachers on the reservation. There is a need to grow our own teachers and provide residential workers with training.

Judge Wing: The college needs to be more aggressive in high school recruitment. Should be a goal to increase full time students.

Brad Rishal – Family Healing Center: The Center has hired NPC graduates. The college needs to encourage parents to encourage and expect their children to go to college.

Judge Gloria Kindig – Navajo County Superior Court: Would also like to see a culinary arts program at the college. Great idea to use construction classes to renovate old motels for use.

Judge Wing: Will the results of the forums be given to the NPC Board? Dr. Fleming: They are being made available on the web and when a draft plan is drawn up it will be made public and given to the Board. Judge Wing: Make public the date and time of that meeting, please. So public can attend and provide input to the Board.

Mary Koury: This campus needs a focus and it needs to be communicated to the public! There must continue to be a working relationship between the public schools, the college and the city.