



Northland Pioneer College

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1st Annual Community Outreach

Painted Desert Campus, Holbrook

December 2, 2010

Northland Pioneer College / Painted Desert Campus, Holbrook hosted the Campus's 1st annual community outreach meeting on December 2, 2010 at the Tiponi Community Center. Those in attendance were:

Lt. Larry Parks-DPS, Jeff Hill-City of Holbrook Mayor, Ray Alley-Holbrook City Manager, Cher Reyes-City of Holbrook, Wendy Skevingon-City of Holbrook, James Reilly-APS, Dr. Eric Henderson- NPC Dean of Arts and Sciences, Eric Bishop-NPC Director of Information Services, MiAnna Tyler-NPC Campus Manager at Painted Desert Campus and Kathy McPherson-NPC Assistant to the Campus Manager at Painted Desert Campus.

The introduction was given by MiAnna Tyler who stated that she is starting her 28th year with Northland Pioneer College, 17 of those years working at the Registrar's Office and 11 years serving as the Campus Manager, where she stated that she is going through her 74th registration- "I think – I've lost count!" She also told the group that Holbrook has a beautiful campus; housing 6 general classrooms; and 7 specialty classrooms (CIS, PHO, ART, SCI, Audio, and two Video).

The Campus Office along with various other offices located at Hermosa Drive officially moved to this new location in the fall of 2003; although the Fitness Center was housed here for many years prior. She stated to the group that this past year NPC has undergone some cost saving measures and realignments; including the closure of the Fitness Center and the closure of the District Office located on the corner of 1st and Hopi. The Fitness Center equipment was leased to the NPC Foundation and with assistance from City of Holbrook the facility is now open to the Holbrook community with proceeds benefiting student scholarships. MiAnna also stated to the group that from March through June of this year all but two of the district departmental offices have relocated to this location; the other two have relocated to another campus. The VP of Administrative Services, Business and Payroll Offices are now located at the Tiponi Community Center. Records and Registration, Human Resources and Financial Aid Offices are now located at the Tawa Center, it has been very helpful to assist students with all their student services needs in one location.

MiAnna noted that a recent FTSE (Full-Time Student Equivalence) comparison report indicated that PDC was up 9 FTSE from fall 2009 to 2010; this includes regular, NAVIT and Dual Enrollment FTSE counts. MiAnna thanked the group for their attendance today.

Eric Bishop spoke to the group about the recent HLC Accreditation visit; he stated that the results were fantastic; there were no issues with the college. He also stated that the self-study that NPC conducted is available on the college's website. He stated that he will be presenting the college president Dr. Jeanne Swarthout with a choice of the new model for accreditation on December 3, 2010. He has been getting input from the community and NPC staff. He stated to the group that the budget has impacted NPC; the staff took a 2 percent pay cut. NPC is good this year as far as the budget is concerned; budget evaluating will continue into next year.

Dr. Eric Henderson also spoke to the group about the budget reductions such as: number of courses being offered and the number of adjunct faculty that can be hired. He also stated that the Developmental Services Program has suffered the most from the budget reductions; there is a waiting list of over 200 students. NPC is doing what they can to accommodate students. Administrative Justice enrollment has decreased which is partly because of class size change from 10 students to 15. Last year the college implemented a hiring freeze; this year 5 new faculty positions will be available. Dr. Henderson informed the group that there are a higher proportion of students in Dual Enrollment and NAVIT here at NPC. He stated to the group that the purpose of this meeting is to hear from folks on how NPC can help accomplish goals.

Mayor Hill asked if the HLC was a federal entity, Eric Bishop stated that it is not; it is regional. Mr. Bishop also said that the HLC will be more active with colleges (delegation from the feds). Mayor Hill stated that as taxpayers we pay for services on the reservation, is there any offset that is offered to NPC from the BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs)? Dr. Henderson informed the group that there are no direct payments; however, we do receive tribal help for students. NPC received a \$300,000 grant from the Navajo Nation for Early Childhood. NPC looks for ways to get financial help; there is also an intergovernmental agreement with Kayenta. Ray Alley asked how the online classes have affected NPC. Dr. Henderson stated that there are several adjunct faculty that are teaching online classes. The POS and AZ Government classes that are needed for teacher certification are drawing about 600 students per semester. Dr. Henderson also stated that the ration between adjunct faculty and full-time faculty is that adjunct faculty is not paid as much and they are not committed to the college by a contract. He further stated that online classes have taken away from live classes being offered. For instance, MUS 150 has 1 live class in Show Low – the rest are online.

Ray Alley asked what NPC is doing to target high school students and parents to let them know what a bargain NPC is, he stated that you cannot control revenue, but you can control enrollment. Eric Bishop stated that NPC has applied for a 2 million dollar grant for network infrastructure improvements that will support more distance learning. Wendy Skevington asked how NPC was going to stay in front of the curve with the changing infrastructures. Mr. Bishop said one way would be for the college to purchase cheaper computers. Mr. Reilly told the group that students should take the first two years at NPC; he stated that the average age of employees at APS is 57. He also stated that 2 former NAVIT students now have apprenticeships at the plant and will have full time positions as soon as available. Mr. Reilly said that he believes that NPC should start talking to high school students at the sophomore level, and that how 2 years at a community college will help them finish out a 4 year degree at a university. Mr. Reilly said that

Arizona needs to bring industry in and develop partnerships – industry needs to come to NPC and have them create a scholarship.

Mayor Hill stated that the town is full of kids who have come back to Holbrook after leaving for a year – there are students in the making here, he also stated that in his late 20's he discovered that learning is fun. Mr. Hill asked if enrollment was decreasing at the other NPC locations. Eric Henderson stated that yes we lost the DOC students because of budget cuts; we don't have the state funding – state aid is a substantial part of enrollment, and we have limited class offerings.

Mayor Hill asked if the board had ever discussed closing a campus; Eric Henderson replied that NPC closed the Heber campus. Hill then asked if NPC feels in danger of losing another campus and Eric Bishop stated that would depend on the budget. Mr. Alley asked what the city can do to help – does NPC have full time libraries. MiAnna Tyler stated that NPC does have full time libraries; however, NPC in the near future is going to be implementing a \$35.00 media fee to community members to use the computers in the libraries.

Lt. Larry Parks from DPS stated that DPS wants to bring the reserve academy back to NPC; he said that DPS has used NPC facilities in the past.

Cher Reyes asked how many community colleges do not have sports programs like NPC; she stated that if NPC would have kept the basketball program the enrollment might have stayed up. MiAnna said that eliminating the basketball program was not an easy decision. Cher Reyes stated that she thinks that NPC and the schools need to communicate better; she said that NPC should set up a booth at the Junior High school – freshmen going into high school need to be aware of what NPC has to available, i.e., Dual Enrollment and NAVIT.

Mayor Hill stated that NPC should focus on doing things that are unique to NPC – do them better, things that make a difference in the community. The City of Holbrook offers tuition reimbursement to city employees; the courses need to be job related. Mr. Alley asked if NPC could offer CDL classes; he stated that some city employees need CDL licenses. Wendy Skevington said that kids don't open the NPC schedule; they use cell phones, twitter, facebook, etc. Eric Bishop stated that NPC does have a link on its website for twitter and facebook.

Kathy McPherson

Assistant to the Campus Manager, Holbrook

Note taker