AGENDA
STEM-H Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, February 4, 2019
3 to 5 pm
Administration Conference Room

Facilitator: Carolina Aguirre, Director, R²S²

In Attendance
Brittany Padilla, Student Success Manager, UNM-Valencia
Carolina Aguirre, R2S2 Senior Program Manager, UNM-Valencia
Chelsey Servantes, Instructional Facilitator, Belen Schools
Elisa Ashford, Student UNM-Valencia
Gill Giese, Extension Viticulture Specialist, NMSU Agricultural Science Center
James Bruce Harrisson, Associate Professor of Geology, NM Tech
John Bollweg, Institutional Researcher, UNM-Valencia
Kenneth Armijo, Engineer, Sandia National Laboratories
Laura Musselwhite, Dean of Instruction, UNM-Valencia
Matt Williams, Director of School Improvement, Belen Schools
Miriam Chavez, Professor of Biology, UNM-Valencia
Steven Peralta, Director, Engineering Student Success Center UNM-Main
Victor French, Med Lab Teacher Assistant/Lecturer II, UNM-Valencia

Discussion

Agriculture:
Dr. Musselwhite provided an update on the progress of adding Agriculture course work on UNM-Valencia campus. UNM-Valencia has approval to offer the prefix for Agriculture courses as well as the specific course number. The first Agriculture course offering is fall 2019. Depending on courses interest, we may build it into a Certificate and/or Associate’s degree. With the common course-numbering coming in fall, we will be able to pick up any of the courses listed at the 100 and 200 level for our program, again based on interest. NMSU is very willing to align curriculum and degree programs. Much of the core curriculum can apply to the program requirements. We can offer students this option while they are at UNM-Valencia campus. We have some agreements with NMSU already but it is generally the core packaged toward different degrees.

Senate Bill 163:
SB 163 is sponsored by Clemente Sanchez and Alonzo Baldonado. The bill would give UNM-Valencia permission to build a workforce training center. It has passed the first of four hearings and is in need of letters/messages of support from the Board.

Dr. Letteney encourages Board member support for this initiative. UNM Valencia has the land and funding for the Center but needs authorization to proceed, due to a previous moratorium on adding additional educational buildings- in place since 2015.
Soft skills is often what industry says the workforce is lacking. The proposed facility would help address the lack of soft skills such as teamwork, communication, leadership and supervision. Site will include curriculum to support what companies are needing of their employees.
Earth Day/STEM Day:
The Infographic includes the events that the R2S2 Grant supported through Fall 2018. For 2019, a K-12 Outreach will begin in the Spring. Please provide guidance and ideas on how to be inclusive on K-12, community, industry and internship opportunities on Earth Day. An awareness to STEM Degrees, and careers and internships and hands on experience for participants.

Each semester we have 2 events. In the fall we had BioBlitz and Mole Day, in the Spring we have e Day and Earth Day. An example of an activity already planned includes Student organization, STEM League, is preparing plants that they will sell to raise funds. We are looking for ideas that are engaging and hands on activities.

April 22 begins the testing window for the state so the 23rd may be a challenge for the K-12 program. Perception that they test the whole time but that is not the case. Planning to bring K-12 students will need to happen very soon.

Suggestions and commitments for Earth Day activities from board members included:
Kenneth Armijo can bring in spectrometers, solar panels, egg beater wind turbines and has some knowledge of persons to contact for a possible water filtration demonstration.

Tie earth day activities to curriculum. Speakers can speak to specific topics tying in Math, Chemistry, Biology, etc.

James Harrisson has offered to look into bringing New Mexico Tech students and robotics road show. Steve Peralta has agreed to check into water display at UNM Main Civil Engineering department.

Emerging theme for Earth Day: Ag Energy. Miriam will run this by Kevin Hobbs the key faculty member guiding Earth Day on UNM Valencia campus.

Maybe use the plants that STEM League is growing and the FarmBot to gather interest for the Ag course.

Chelsey Servantes suggested, the more hands on and experiential the better. Speakers are not really the way to go with K-12.

Additional Info:
Belen Schools has been in talks with UNM-V and others to create a program working with local farmers who cannot provide food on a consistent basis but can be packaged and sold as a business capstone project for the Ag course. Would be distributing fresh fruits and vegetables to local schools/students. Then eventually expand to the UNM-V dual credit avenue. Reapplication Centers through Sandia National Labs and Los Alamos National Labs, get on the website and reach out to them for their outdated but fully operational technology.

STEM Board toured Green house on campus and adjourned meeting.