



## Cooperating Raleigh Colleges

### Academic Officers (AO) and Operations Committee (OC) Joint Meeting Minutes

Meredith College, Science and Math Building 175

Wednesday, November 2, 2011, 3:30 p.m.

**Convener:** Dr. Liz Wolfinger

**In attendance:** **Meredith College:** Dr. Liz Wolfinger, Vice President for Academic Planning and Programs (AO); **NC State University:** Dr. John Ambrose, Dean, Undergraduate Academic Programs (AO); Dr. Betsy Brown, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs (OC); **William Peace University:** Dr. Jerry Nuesell, Dean of Student and Academic Services (OC); **Saint Augustine's College:** Dr. Connie Allen, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (AO & OC); **CRC:** Ms. Jenny Spiker, Director.

**Approval of the Minutes:** The minutes from the April 7, 2011 meeting were approved.

### **Presentation on RCCC, the Raleigh Promise**

**Guest Presenters:** **Dr. Jose Picart**, Executive Director, Raleigh College and Community Collaborative (RCCC) and Special Assistant to the Provost for Outreach and Engagement at NC State University; **Dr. Paula Moten-Tolson**, RCCC Fellows Team Co-Chair and Dean of Education, Shaw University; **Ms. Peggy Ross**, Meredith College Liaison for the Raleigh Fellows and the Liaisons chairperson.

Because the CRC Board of Directors voted last spring to have CRC become a major partner in the RCCC and to take a lead role with the college portion of the collaboration (The Raleigh Fellows), CRC and all of its member institutions have been very involved in its planning and now its implementation. Dr. Picart came to give an overview of the entire project, called The Raleigh Promise; Dr. Moten-Tolson talked about The Raleigh Fellows portion; and Ms. Ross spoke about the Liaisons who are carrying out the Fellows Team projects.

**Key points from the presentation:** (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is attached.)

- Raleigh is one of four cities to be awarded the Gates Foundation grant for this project to address the leakage issues in the pipeline of youth from secondary school to postsecondary education to the workforce. RCCC has \$1.3 million to implement pilot programs. The grant ends in February 2013.
- The goal: to double the numbers of low-income young adults who earn postsecondary credentials with labor market value by age 26.
- The Gates vision is to stress building community partnerships that will sustain success for the community's youth. The goal is to influence the systems in the community. The collaboration here has extensive involvement from all of the six institutions of higher education, the Wake County Public School, the City of Raleigh, Wake County, the Chamber of Commerce, and many community based nonprofits such as the United Way, Communities In Schools, Neighbor to Neighbor, NC Society of Hispanic Professionals, Wake Education Partnership, Capital Area Workforce Development and many more.

- **The Raleigh Fellows:** Dr. Moten-Tolson explained this program, which is operating in each of the CRC institutions and Wake Technical Community College. It targets low-income students (based on Pell eligibility) who had Raleigh residency when they were admitted.
  - This program emphasizes academic success and retention, connecting the students with the community, and preparation for the work force. It draws on programs already underway for such efforts and aims to provide a pilot for intense focus that can be sustained and adapted for other students as well. It stresses helping those who may have been left out of ongoing support programs and aims to help create a sense of belonging.
  - Each campus receives \$67,000 for the grant period to hire a Liaison to lead the Fellows program on that campus. Each campus can also hire an intern through NC State to work with the Fellows program.
  - The Liaisons have been identified on all campuses and have been meeting together weekly this semester to help each other organize the activities that will begin with the students in the spring 2012 semester.
  - The kickoff event with all of the Raleigh Fellows is slated for February 2012.
  - What is expected of the RCCC partner institutions?
    - Support the Raleigh Fellows Program on campus.
    - Provide access for Liaisons to gather data and tap into existing programs and resources.
    - Sponsor related activities.
    - Fund Fellows' activities that fall under normal campus retention programs.
- **Greetings from a Liaison:** Ms. Ross, the Meredith Liaison, talked about her first meetings with the Fellows identified on her campus. She said the students are enthusiastic and really appreciate someone recognizing the plusses and minuses that come with being from Raleigh. Each campus will implement the program to fit its particular needs and goals, but she said it has been very helpful for the Liaisons to meet so regularly and help each other build their Fellows programs. The Liaisons are including in their plans a variety of ways for the Fellows from the six campuses to come together and learn from those on the other campuses.

**Discussion following the presentations:** The group was glad to have the presentation and realized that they need to help get the word out about it on their campuses. Ms. Spiker stressed that she has been very impressed with the Fellows Team and the Liaisons. There is a very strong spirit of building something together from the ground up and an incredible range of participants from the community as well as the colleges and universities. She pointed to the list in their packets of the Fellows Team, the Liaisons and the detailed work plan for the Fellows.

### **Discussion: Evaluating and preserving majors and programs in current times**

The group spent time going over the ways their institutions have been restructuring in the last several years. They talked about the merging and elimination of some academic programs and also about administrative reorganizations. In some cases several new majors have been added or are in the process of being added. The primary question for CRC is if we should look for ways to collaborate on new or merged programs or combine efforts on behalf of reduced programs. Continued study and discussion will take place on this issue.

### **ROTC Program Follow-up**

In response to questions at last spring's meeting, Dr. Ambrose said he had spoken with the ROTC leaders on the NC State campus and they would be happy to discuss collaborating with new ROTC programs on campuses

that don't have ROTC. Dr. Allen said the Saint Augustine's ROTC leaders there would also be willing to do that. Saint Augustine's has Army ROTC, and NC State has Army, Air Force and Navy programs.

### **CRC Update:**

Ms. Spiker stressed how pleased she was to see the activity this past year around the CRC academic officers and their staffs helping each other fill positions. This fall in particular a good number of adjunct positions were filled because of this network's collaboration. She pointed to materials in the folders about other CRC groups' activities and projects. For example, the librarians held their fourth summer professional development workshop, and new committees are exploring the use of NC State graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in CRC undergraduate programs and with the NC Museum of Science.

### **Dedicated topic for the spring 2012 meeting: Evaluating for Tenure**

Members received a copy of the report from The American Council on Education, The American Association of University Professors and the United Educators Insurance Risk Retention Group called *Good Practice in Tenure Evaluation: Advice for Tenured Faculty, Department Chairs and Academic Administrators*. That document will be background for the spring meeting of chief academic officers, which will focus on that topic.

### **Next Meeting:**

Ms. Spiker and Dr. Wolfinger will meet to propose dates and an agenda for the meeting at Meredith.