

Minutes

NEW ERA Meeting

June 26, 2008
9:30 – 2:00 p.m.

FVTC's Waupaca Regional Center
Johnson Family Conference Center

Facilitator/Chair: Jim Perry

Note taker: Juli McGuire

Members Present:

CEOs:

Dan Blankenship, UW-FDL
Verna Fowler, CMN
Al Hardersen, UW-SHB
Tom Hilke for Mike Lanser, LTC
Gayle Hytrek, MPTC
Susan May, FVTC
Paula Langteau, UW-MNT
Jim Perry, UW-FOX
Jeff Rafn, NWTC
David Ward, UWGB
Rick Wells, UWO

Additional Large Group Members:

Scott Hildebrand, UWGB
Mike Jurmu, UWFDL (FDG)
Tim Meyer, UWGB (FDG)
Terese Nemec, FVTC (FDG)
Mary Peterson, FVTC (FDG)
Mary Sagrillo, UWGB (FDG)
Martin Tadlock, UWO
Jan Thornton, UWGB
Chad Waukechon, CMN

Agenda Item/Discussion

NEW ERA CEO MEETING:

1. Jim Perry welcomed the new Interim Dean for UWGB David Ward and new President for FVTC Susan May to the meeting.
2. Jeff Rafn talked about the New North technical colleges' Next Generation Workforce initiative which comprises the technical colleges' budget request for initiatives in manufacturing, health care and energy in response to demands in these areas and to begin to address the need to replace significant numbers in the workforce due to retirements in the next 5 to 10 years. He indicated that the energy portion of the initiative includes training for emerging occupations in the production and distribution of renewable and sustainable energy – bio-fuels, nuclear, wind, geothermal, and solar. David Ward indicated we have an enormous asset in cellulosic fiber which can be made into fuel without affecting the corn industry. He suggested that mention of this should be made in the proposal. The initiative was presented to the Wisconsin Technical Colleges state board yesterday and will be brought back its August meeting. NEW ERA partners endorse this initiative and Chair Jim Perry will write a letter of support to the state board on behalf of NEW ERA. [See attached "NNTC Next Generation Workforce.pdf."]

Rick Wells stated that a similar effort across all NEW ERA partners should be undertaken as part of the New North growth agenda by reviewing budget initiatives in each of our respective institutions and showing how they align. A case statement to include talking points and endorsements should be compiled and published. Jeff Rafn indicated this could be done at the next NEW ERA meeting. He believes this is an opportunity to build on the strong regional and state reputation that NEW ERA and New North has built through its reputation of success and strong collaborative relationships.. Dan Blankenship agreed that the case statement should be sent to the governor's office in anticipation of the next budget review process.

3. Rick Wells provided an update on the recent New North board meeting held 06/25/08 at Miron Construction.

3.1 Rick shared a report on a 3-day, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) WindPower 2008 conference and trade show: [Link: www.windpowerexpo.org/.] (By the way this was announced in a news release on the New North website in February.) New North will be looking wind power in terms of advanced manufacturing and wind energy supply chain. New North has created a report New North Wind Energy. The report features several companies among the “over one hundred resident regional industries (vendor-suppliers) [who] possess the production capacity to meet the needs of all component products required of wind energy industries” in northeast Wisconsin, who will hopefully all become contributing members of the New North. [Attached: “windproposal150.pdf.”]

3.2 The next New North summit will be December 8. “Collaborations” is the theme. They hope to feature individuals who have benefitted from collaborations. Rick Wells recommended reading “Caught in the Middle” by Richard Longworth who is the tentative featured speaker for the summit.

3.3 New North would like to offer to business leaders from Niagara, Wisconsin to send a New North delegation to discuss local business problems, economic development, and provide resources they may not otherwise have access to. Paula Langteau indicated that the Marinette/Menominee Area Chamber of Commerce has also been in contact with them.

4. Rick Wells brought up the possibility for NEW ERA partners to discuss using each other’s command centers should off-site command center be needed and pursue this over the next year.

5. Rick Wells shared information regarding an up-coming China Water Symposium to be held throughout the state in July and specifically in the New North July 21-24. This may be something faculty and staff are interested in attending. More information to follow. Jim Perry mentioned that the Wisconsin Academic of Sciences, Arts and Letters did a study 4 years ago and thought representatives of this study should also be part of the symposium. Bob DeKoch would be the person to contact regarding being included in the planning for a future water symposium.

NEW ERA LARGE GROUP MEETING:

1. Paul Shrode, Regional Manager for FVTC’s Waupaca Regional Center provided a tour and information regarding the new facility. Located near the new Highway 54 bypass, the 15,500 square foot facility was built meeting LEED design requirements.

2. Jim Perry asked partners to discuss energy saving initiatives and whether anyone has considered converting to a 4-day work week during the summer. MPTC indicated a \$30,000 energy savings across 3 campuses this year and another \$400,000 savings in salary per year. Gayle Hytrek reported being closed 11 Fridays during the summer is also a huge morale builder. Managers end up with fewer days in their contract, however maintain a competitive salary and full benefits. Hourly staff have the choice to make up time or can take a day without pay. They also have the option to keep the most efficiency campus open 5 days if needed.

LTC had adopted a 4-day work week years ago, and restarted it again this summer. Staff can make up the time, make up part of the time, take the time without pay, use vacation; it’s entirely their choice. They expect energy savings and salary savings but don’t have the figures yet estimating a savings of \$500 per day. LTC is also closed the week between Christmas and New Year’s.

FVTC are closed 2 weeks during the year: the week of July 4th and Christmas holiday break. The reduced hours do not affect benefits.

Rick Wells feels that we need to reestablish our preeminence in educational outcomes with our students and is looking to have the campus more fully deployed over 12 months to provide more class time (possibly via technological delivery), and has not considered specifically whether to convert to a 4-day work week during the summer.

3. Michael Jurmu spoke as out-going chair of the Faculty Dialogue Group with a final report on this year’s

activities. He and Christine Roth did several presentations to faculty at NEW ERA institutions. They spoke with the UW Oshkosh senate and Fox Valley Technical College about NEW ERA. Mike also presented at NEW ERA's Legislative Breakfast in March. He further reported about the success of this year's conference indicating that targeted areas of discussion help to draw people interested in those topics. He said advanced notice prior to the start of the semester regarding the date of the conference will be an important step to increasing attendance at next year's conference and that the date will likely be set at this year's October or November FDG meeting. Jan Thornton was awarded a flying pig in appreciation for her efforts with FDG, the collaborative liberal studies degree program, and for her leadership and inspiration to the Faculty Dialogue Group.

All FDG recommendations in the 2007-08 final report were met with agreement by NEW ERA partners. Mike highlighted some important initiatives that the FDG would like to focus on and NEW ERA partners agreed to support these and would like to be called upon if they can assist:

- Include the FDG web link on the NEW ERA main web page. [Done - see www.neweraonline.org.]
- Send FDG representative to NEW ERA board meetings. [Vice chair Stephanie Erdmann will serve as FDG representative and Chair Christine Roth if VC is unable to attend. Stephanie Erdmann has been added as a member of the NEW ERA large group email listserve so she will receive meeting invitations and notices.]
- A collaborative degree in sustainable energy. John Katers has extensive materials on this. While he is currently on sabbatical, Mike indicated that John is willing to continue to help with this initiative.
- Align course numbers across institutions.
- Make it easier to view student transcripts between different institutions to allow for easier student advising.
- Jay Moynihan, UWEX, will be invited to participate on the FDG.
- Jeff Rafn offered to have NWTC host the next FDG conference.

NEW ERA partners will continue to support provide a stipend for members to participate for up to three years on the FDG and encourage the FDG to call upon its alumni for projects.

CEOs should send contact information to Jan Thornton of faculty who will be filling FDG vacancies at their institution.

4. Jim Perry announced that Chancellor David Wilson would like to hold a event to celebrate the UWFox/UW-Platteville engineering degree program. David Ward and Rick Wells may want to call Chancellor Wilson to discuss holding a similar event for all NEW ERA engineering partnerships and to discuss getting the governor's endorsement of NEW ERA.

5. Champion reports:

These are all of them – pick those that were reported on and fill in details...

A1 "Make regionally relevant baccalaureate degrees in engineering available throughout northeast Wisconsin." Jeff Rafn

- **Jeff Rafn will coordinate a Wisline phone conference with David Ward, Rick Wells, Jim Perry, Jeff Rafn and Verna Fowler and let anyone else from NEW ERA who wants to join, to discuss the bigger picture regarding a NEW ERA vision for engineering.**

A4 "Inventory faculty and staff expertise that is applicable to growing northeast Wisconsin businesses and communities." Linda Freed

- **Rick Wells will follow up with Linda Freed on this initiative.**

B3 "Continue to communicate with area legislators as a group. Develop regional legislators as a 'caucus' on behalf of our region. Build more support from the governor and legislature. Engage

federal legislators and their staff." CEOs

- **CEOs want to get together in September to discuss presenting an alignment of NEW ERA budget issues and include anyone at this meeting from our institutions who are knowledgeable and in a position to help get this done.**

B4 "Engage UW System and Wisconsin Technical College System administrators and staff to enhance communication and build support." CEOs

- **Meeting will be arranged in Madison (CEOs, Dan Clancey, Kevin Reilly, Rebecca Martin)**

B5 "Engage College of Menominee Nation and UW-Extension in dialogue on how to leverage their relationship with NEW ERA. Develop a proposal/initiative as an outcome for application by the end of the year." Verna Fowler

C1 "Perform targeted analysis to find out how effective we are at Goal C programs in progress. Document metrics and student feedback for selected initiatives, including a) Alternative Teacher Certificate, b) 1+3 general education certificate, and c) BAS degree." Sue Hammersmith

- **David Ward will check with his staff to see if it would be appropriate for someone from UWGB to take over this initiative as Sue Hammersmith has retired.**

C2 "Form a new committee to share best practices in accelerated programming, starting with accelerated business programming." Stephanie Erdmann

C3 "Continue to research/implement credit for prior learning (CPL)." Jan Thornton

- **Jan will compile a report on how CPL is being pursued or utilized at each NEW ERA institution to help answer questions: What is the criteria for granting credit? If we implement our own CPL guidelines, how does CPL translate to credit transfer? CEOs should send contact info of who to contact at each institution (registrars, faculty). WTC has a policy but each institution decides whether to grant CPL.**

6. Jim Perry will contact Chancellor Wilson about scheduling a visit to College of Menominee Nation as a representative of UW-Extension. [Done – meeting will be held 10/16/08.]

7. The next meeting was set for Tuesday, September 9, 2008, 9:30-11 CEO; 11-2 p.m. large group, at the UW-Sheboygan campus.

Special thanks to FVTC President May, Vicky Van Hout and FVTC's Waupaca Regional Center Regional Manager Paul Shrode for hosting this meeting.