

**Report and Recommendations on Inter-Institutional Collaboration and
Credit Transfer for NEW ERA Institutions
June 26, 2008**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following the NEW ERA Board's decision to continue their support of the Faculty Dialogue Group (FDG), the FDG began its third year by dividing up into working groups (Communications, Conference, New Initiatives, and Relationships) and focusing on three goals: identifying and clarifying inter-institutional collaboration benefits and issues between the UW and WTC systems; exploring teaching and curriculum in the UW and WTC systems, particularly in relation to credit transfer potential; and recommending specific strategies, activities and events to build stronger relationships among the faculty of NEW ERA institutions. The successful FDG-sponsored conference at UW Oshkosh in April 2008 contributed significantly to the group's ability to meet these goals.

Over the 2007-08 year, the FDG also structured itself with officers and guiding principles, restructured the membership terms for service in the group, posted documents and minutes to the NEW ERA website, and created a NEW ERA DVD. For the first time since its inception, the FDG had two representatives from the College of Menominee Nation (CMN), and the FDG would like to include a representative from UW-Extension and to encourage more representation from the UW Colleges.

For the coming year, the 2007-08 FDG recommends a review of the original goals in the 2005-06 report, FDG representation at the NEW ERA board meetings, representation from the UW Extension on the FDG, continued work through FDG sub-groups, continued publicity about the work of NEW ERA and the FDG, a third annual collaborative conference, increased follow-up with conference participants, continued support for the collaborative Sustainability/Environmental Science Program.

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Following the NEW ERA Board's decision to continue their support of the Faculty Dialogue Group (FDG), the FDG began its third year of work with a slightly different structure. Several members who had served their 2-year term were able to continue in the group as "veterans," and members at the first meeting in the fall of 2007 created and approved a set of guiding principles and three officer roles for the group. Besides the usual informal introduction of all the members, the first meeting included discussions about what the group wanted to accomplish for the year. In the past, the group has worked primarily as a single unit; for this year, however, the group determined that the FDG should create several "Working Groups" that focus on specific topics related to our basic goals: Communications (to work on disseminating information about NEW ERA and the FDG), Conference (to work on organizing and setting up the spring conference), New Initiatives (to investigate what the FDG should be doing in the future), and Relationship (to maintain connections between faculty once they are created). Each subsequent meeting allowed agenda time for full group discussion, Working Group time for their projects, and reports from the Working Groups. So, while the size of the overall FDG increased, the members divided into groups of appropriate size, enabling us to use time efficiently and resulted in the FDG accomplishing much more than if it worked as one whole group toward a few tasks.

In this document you will find a summary of group's activities and accomplishments for the 2007-08 year and a list of recommendations by this year's FDG for future consideration by next year's group, as well as a few final comments and acknowledgements. Appendices A, B C, and D provide a proposed budget, the membership plan for 2008-09, the schedule/evaluation summary for the 2008 FDG-sponsored conference, and the guiding principles document created by this year's FDG.

1. ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM THE 2007-08 FACULTY DIALOGUE GROUP

The FDG has continued to work on various aspects to achieve its goals initiated by the NEW ERA Board back in 2005:

- identify and clarify inter-institutional collaboration benefits and issues between the UW and WTC systems
- explore teaching and curriculum in the UW and WTC systems, particularly in relation to credit transfer potential
- recommend specific strategies, activities and events to build stronger relationships among the faculty of NEW ERA institutions

To achieve these goals, the FDG conducted activities as a whole group and in sub-groups dedicated to specific tasks. The following list of accomplishments is split into 3 categories; accomplishments by the Working Groups, items from the 2006-07 FDG Report, and any additional accomplishments.

1.1. Working Groups

As mentioned previously, the FDG decided at its first meeting to create 4 Working Groups where each member would join a group based on their interest. The Working Groups were Communications, Conference, New Initiatives, and Relationships. The following is a summary of their activities from the year.

1.1.1. Communications

One of the Working Groups created this year included a group that developed several PowerPoint slideshow outlines of various aspects of the FDG and NEW ERA that can be used by members to communicate these ideas to various groups. Each member of this group chose a topic to research and then created a presentation module. The idea was these modules could be accessed by members of the FDG to help them create their own presentations to disseminate information about NEW ERA and the FDG. Outline presentations that were developed include the following:

- What is NEW ERA?
- What is the Faculty Dialogue Group?
- General Information about each type of NEW ERA institutions
- Current Articulation Agreements between NEW ERA institutions
- Information about the Transfer Information System (TIS)
- Information about our Collaborative Conference

Several presentations were given this year regarding the FDG. Christine Roth invited Michael Jurmu to discuss NEW ERA and the FDG at one of the UW-Oshkosh Faculty Senate meetings. Michael also gave an informal talk about FDG at an “ice cream social” set up by Mary Peterson at Fox Valley Technical College. Finally, he gave a brief talk about the FDG at the NEW ERA Legislators Breakfast, attended by politicians from the region. The presentations are currently in a very preliminary state and need to be reviewed and revised. The group also recommends that someone post them on the FDG link on the NEW ERA web site.

1.1.2. Conference

This was the second year of our conference to foster collaboration and inform about the work of the NEW ERA and the FDG. It was held on April 18 and also dedicated to the memory of Professor Anne C. Kok who died earlier in the year. Last year’s conference was attended by 76 and this year’s was similar with about 75 participating. The schedule of events for the day was slightly modified from the previous year based upon what disciplines we would be targeting and also from the comments and observations from last year’s conference. Included this year’s conference were presentations on the College of Menominee Nation and on the Sustainability/Renewable Energy Degree currently being developed by the FDG, and specific breakout sessions for areas of interests. See Appendix C for the complete conference agenda.

Based on the conference evaluation (48 responded last year with 44 this year) it appears the conference was more focused on our objectives and was well received. Many hope informally that the conference could be expanded and held every year! Specifically the mean score for several areas increased from last year including learning more about the different institutions (from 4.0 to 4.14), knowing more about the benefits of collaboration (from 3.7 to 4.09), and how the format of the conference help attain our goals (from 3.8 to 4.14). Generally the first year’s comments were about objectives and the purpose being fulfilled (and there were many!) This

year's comments were not as extensive in those areas (indicating we had corrected those issues) and were positive about the experience. One participant actually noted the following:

"I think this one was even better than last year. Just worried that contacts/initiatives/ideas will fade."

The entire evaluation summary can be found in Appendix D. Overall we believe the conference was another positive step toward bringing faculty together to discuss and inform each other in our efforts to foster collaborative relations. We hope we can continue these efforts by holding another conference next year.

1.1.3. **New Initiatives**

One of the potential new initiatives that the committee identified was a collaborative degree in sustainability/renewable energy from the institutions in the NEW ERA region.

This committee would leverage some of the best aspects of each institution, as summarized below:

- UWGB - environmental roots, energy independence, sustainability
- UW Oshkosh - green business initiatives, energy independence
- College of the Menominee Nation - all students take a course in sustainability, longest running sustainable forestry operation in the U.S.
- Lake Shore Technical College - functioning wind turbine (hand on training of students on wind turbines, electrical interconnection, etc.)
- NWTC - new emphasis on renewable energy curriculum, with several certificate and associate degree programs anticipated (curriculum development under way, new faculty to be hired soon).
- Fox Valley Technical College - hands on training on electrical interconnection, etc.

The goal would be to allow students to get more hands-on training at the technical colleges and at College of Menominee Nation and to allow students to get more training in environmental science/policy and business at the UW institutions. The committee would also like to identify something that would be flexible enough to accommodate students going in both directions (associate degrees that can transfer to the 4-years and the other way as well).

The development of this initiative was hampered somewhat by the challenges behind bringing together the people involved in sustainability/renewable energy from all of the institutions in the NEW ERA region. Dr. John Katers from UW Green Bay presented an excellent introduction to the initiative at the 2008 Faculty Dialogue Conference, and development of the initiative will continue in 2008-2009.

1.1.4. **Relationships**

Part of this group's work was to try and develop a method where interested faculty could exchange ideas and stay in contact with other faculty about various issues or information about their discipline. As many of us have experienced from past conferences, there is an excitement during the event and many business cards and ideas exchanged but several weeks afterwards, that vigor to stay in touch is lost. As mentioned in several comments from last year's conference, many want to communicate but often there is no easy procedure to conduct such activities. The

Relations Group worked this year to develop a pilot model using faculty from the science discipline interested in staying in touch. They created a NEW ERA Science Network on Google Groups (<http://groups.google.com/group/new-era-science-network>) and invited science educators from the alliance to join. Once they have joined faculty members can post messages/questions and to reply to messages from others in the group. There are at least 23 faculty members registered for the group and perhaps this model could be used to expand the number of groups in the coming year to include other disciplines.

1.2. Accomplishments

Accomplishments from this past year come directly from the recommendations in the 2006-07 report. The following is a list of those recommendations and a brief explanation of what was accomplished and/or how it was addressed:

- 1.2.1. **Develop and maintain a Communication Plan:** Information on the accomplishments of this recommendation is provided in the previous section on “Working Groups”.
- 1.2.2. **Encourage more representation from the UW-Colleges:** Since the UW-Colleges are one of the principle “suppliers” of students to the 4-year schools, their input on issues relating to transfer and collaboration is critical. The FDG understands the limited resources available to the Colleges and this is probably what causes the low number of representation from the Colleges. Although the Colleges were allotted 4 members on the group, only 3 positions were filled.
- 1.2.3. **Invite and encourage representation from the College of the Menominee Nation:** For the first time since its inception, the FDG had two representatives from the College of Menominee Nation (CMN). Ryan Winn and Stephanie Erdmann were the first CMN representatives and were very active in the group including giving several presentations about the CMN and Tribal Colleges to the group and at the Collaborative Conference. The FDG hopes the CMN continues to support such representation in the group.
- 1.2.4. **Restructure the membership terms for service in the group:** The FDG recommended the initial 2-year term for representation in the group be extended so willing members could return for a third year. The NEW ERA Board accepted this recommendation and seven members opted to become “veterans” in the FDG for 2007-08. For the coming year, it appears all eligible members who can continue (5) will do so!
- 1.2.5. **Hold another conference with clearly stated objectives and outcomes:** With the support from UW-Oshkosh, the second annual conference was held. More information on the accomplishments of this conference is provided in the section on Working Groups.
- 1.2.6. **Consider providing the Faculty Dialogue Group with a budget for its activities:** The 2006-07 FDG Report requested the NEW ERA Board supply the group with a budget but did not give any specifics in regards to what would be included in such a budget. With the help of Jan Thornton and members of the FDG, a budget was created (decentralized and centralized) and then presented to the Board. The decentralized budget was basically to cover the cost of food and supplies for the conference. The centralized budget contained not only the conference cost but travel for the conference participants and the FDG meeting expenses. After reviewing these proposed budgets, the Board decided to continue funding the FDG as it had been, with each institution picking up the \$1,000 stipend and travel expenses for its respective members. UW Oshkosh Chancellor Rick Wells volunteered to host and underwrite the costs of the annual conference in 2008.
- 1.2.7. **Align Curricula Across the UW-System:** This aspect was discussed at just about every meeting and at the conference! Although it makes sense and would make transferring much easier throughout the UW-System, the FDG did not specifically address how to accomplish this. It will be one of the recommendations for FDG to consider in the coming year/

- 1.2.8. **Structure the FDG with Officers and Guiding Principles:** After 2 years of guidance from Jan and Marsha, it was recommended that a set of guiding principles for the group be established that would include election of officers. The guiding principles were approved at the first FDG meeting in fall 2007, see Appendix D, and Officers were elected. Each officer must be from a different type of institution and there is a suggested progression of the Officers from year to year to maintain consistency. The Officers for this year were Michael Jurmu from the UW Colleges (Chair), Paul Hoffman from the technical colleges (Vice-Chair) and Christine Roth from the four-year institutions (Recorder).

1.3. Additional Accomplishments

- 1.3.1. **Access to NEW ERA Web Site:** With the help of Juli McGuire (UW-Fox Valley) a specific link on the NEW ERA web site was created that allowed the FDG access to post various document including its guiding principles and meeting minutes. It is recommended that this site be maintained by a new "Officer" of the FDG to ensure it is populated with current documents.
- 1.3.2. **Creation of a NEW ERA DVD:** As part of a plan to promote the conference and NEW ERA, a DVD was created through the hard work of Kim Horejs and her IT department at Fox Valley Technical College. Kim and her staff went to several campuses to video interviews with administrators, faculty, and students regarding the collaborative nature of the NEW ERA institutions. These interviews were included in the DVD that also gives information about NEW ERA and different institutions. It is an extremely well done production, and provides a great way to introduce NEW ERA at presentations.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2008-09 FACULTY DIALOGUE GROUP

Although the 2007-08 FDG accomplished many items relating to our goals, there are still many areas that need to be considered and worked on. The following are recommendations for the coming year (in no particular order of importance):

- 2.1. **Review 2005-06 Report:** Future groups should continue to review the initial FDG Report from 2005-06 for potential areas of focus in its work. The document contains FDG goals and was the starting point for much of the work over the past 2 years.
- 2.2. **Include FDG link on NEW ERA web site:** An official member of the group should be elected to monitor and to post items on the NEW ERA web site for FDG. This person does not necessarily have to be an IT person but should have the abilities to post to the site. The position should also be written into guiding principles as one of the Officers so that someone every year will be designated to do this work. This person would then coordinate access to the site with the appropriate web master.
- 2.3. **Send FDG Representative to the NEW ERA Board Meetings:** In response to the NEW ERA Board's suggestion, the FDG decided that the Vice Chair would serve as the FDG representative on the NEW ERA Board. The responsibilities would include attending Board meetings and reporting on the activities of the FDG. We will add these guidelines to the guiding principles. Next year's Vice Chair is Stephanie Erdmann, College of Menominee Nation.
- 2.4. **Invite a Representative from UW-Extension to the FDG:** We would like to ask Jay Moynihan, Shawano County, to join the Faculty Dialogue Group next year.
- 2.5. **Continue Working Group's Projects:** Each of the Working Groups had various projects they started and perhaps next year's group would like to consider continuing, or expanding this work.
 - 2.5.1. **Review & revise presentation modules (Communication Group):** As mentioned previously, the current set of presentation modules are very rudimentary and need some refinement. These need to be worked on so they are more conducive for use by the group.

There also might need to be additional topics created and potentially these could be posted on FDG link on the NEW ERA web site.

- 2.5.2. **Conduct presentations about NEW ERA & FDG (Communication Group):** Although we gave several presentations regarding NEW ERA and the FDG, perhaps a plan directed at specific groups could be developed where FDG members went out to various groups to talk about what has been done over the past few years. Specifically, the group identified specifically identified high school guidance counselors as a target audience, either through a statewide/regional gathering or through individual contacts at high schools in the NEW ERA area. The counselors represent a major link between what students hear and learn about the options available at the 2-yr, 4-yr. and technical college campuses (e.g., transferability, the BAS majors at UW-O and UWGB).
- 2.5.3. **Plan the third annual collaborative conference (Conference Group):** This conference has become one of the main activities of the FDG, and this year's group hopes that it continues to be an annual event.
- 2.5.4. **Review conference comments & evaluation (Conference Group):** Comments and evaluations for the past 2 conferences could be reviewed and considered when organizing the third annual conference. The second year's event was better because we reviewed and considered comments from the previous year, and perhaps the comments from this year would also help the planning group determine next year's program.
- 2.5.5. **Follow-up with conference participants (Conference and Relationships Groups):** Each of the past 2 years the conference has been received very well by the participants, yet very little has been done (or planned) to keep in touch with these people and to maintain the interest generated by the conference. Perhaps as part of the conference planning process a procedure on how to best do this could be considered.
- 2.5.6. **Continue Sustainability/Environmental Science Program (New Initiatives Group):** This project has gained momentum, and it appears that this collaboration will become a reality thanks to the hard work of this group. The project should be supported by the FDG next year because of its potential to be the showcase of how our institutions can cooperate and collaborate.

2.6. Align Course numbers across Institutions: One of the stumbling blocks for students to transfer is the dissimilar numbering systems each institution has for courses that sometimes are actually similar and transfer to institutions as equivalent courses. It is suggested that next year's groups discuss and select one course (or set of courses) from a single discipline and begin work to have these course numbers aligned. The argument for why this has not been done in the past has often rested on the fact that it is considered hard, or impossible. By actually trying to align numbers the group can either develop a model on how to accomplish this, find out what procedures need to be followed or at least determine once and for all if it is actually possible!

2.7. Cross-List Transcripts from Different Institutions: This would allow a more seamless environment between and among our institutions for students wanting to transfer.

3. FINAL COMMENT & REQUEST

It is hard to believe that this year's FDG could have exceeded what was accomplished over the previous two years, but it is possible this was the most productive year since the group's formation. This is an indication not only of the dedication of the members but also shows how relevant these issues are to faculty. Along with holding another successful conference the group still managed to continue its work to create more collaboration between institutions and bring faculty together to begin to discuss how best we can mutually work toward serving our students and communities better. There were new members joining the group and they contributed greatly to the discussion bringing new

ideas and energy to the process. It is the hope of this year's group that what was started 3 years ago will continue to be supported because the group now has established itself as a viable "organization" with strong faculty and instructors, and has the cohesive thread of collaboration bonding its members. We therefore would request the NEW ERA Board respond to this report including any issues or recommendations they would like the group to continue working on, items that might not appear in this report the Board believes should be included, and how the Board would like to continue the work of this group.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We once again thank Jan Thornton, who has organized and initially directed the meetings since our inception in 2005. It was Jan who encouraged us to develop our guiding principles and to create officers for the group. Although the officers reduced some of her workload, she was still a major contributor to the group and a very reliable asset. We also continue to appreciate the various institutions providing funding for our meals and travel at these meetings.

The 2nd Annual NEW ERA FDG Collaborative Conference was organized by the FDG Conference Working Group (Maggie Rentmeester, Ryan Winn, Kim Horejs, Grady Bullington, Denise Robson, Marilyn Sagrillo and James Simmons) who's work was outstanding and one of the main reason for another successful event. We would like to thank UW-Oshkosh and Chancellor Wells (UW-Oshkosh) for hosting the conference along with all their financial support. A special thank you goes to Host Jim Simmons and, most especially, to Laura Rommelfanger (Special Events Coordinator at UW-Oshkosh) for her organization and work during the conference and Mike Beeth (UW-Oshkosh) for organizing and conducting the raffle and prizes at the conference. The group would also like to thank the presenters at the conference including Chancellor Wells, Michael Jurmu (UW-Fond du Lac), James Simmons (UW-Oshkosh), Ryan Winn & Stephanie Erdmann (College of Menominee Nation), Kim Horejs (Fox Valley Technical College), John Katers (UW-Green Bay) and our emcee through the day, Tim Meyer (UW-Green Bay).

As the FDG has done for the past 3 years, we would like to thank Fox Valley Technical College for the use of the Bordini Center for our meetings. We would like to thank Linda Lazic in Susan May's office for her work in arranging our meetings.

We would like to thank the NEW ERA Board for your confidence in, and continued support of, the NEW ERA Faculty Dialogue Group.

Finally we want to especially acknowledge one of our members who is no longer with us. Anne Kok from UW-Green Bay died tragically this year, and her loss was felt by many in the group. Because we work so close together on such heart-felt issues, it is easy to become close to people one might not otherwise get to meet. Anne brought wonderful energy to the group, as she did with all her work. The Faculty Dialogue Group will miss her.

NEW ERA Faculty Dialogue Group 2007-2008

Mike Albertson, Public Safety Instructor, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College
Michael Beeth, Associate Dean, College of Education and Human Services, UW-Oshkosh
Katie Bichler, Professor, Chemistry, UW-Sheboygan
Grady Bullington, Associate Professor, Mathematics, UW-Oshkosh
Brooke Dyer, Communication Skills Instructor, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College
Stephanie Erdmann, Faculty Member, Business, College of Menominee Nation
Al Hanisch, Mathematics Instructor, Moraine Park Technical College
Paul Hoffman, IT Instructor, Lakeshore Technical College
Kim Horejs, Early Childhood Education Instructor, Fox Valley Technical College
Robert Howe, Professor, Natural and Applied Sciences (Biology), UW-Green Bay
Michael Jurmu, Associate Professor, Geography and Geology, UW-Fond du Lac
John Katers, Associate Professor, Natural and Applied Sciences (Engineering), UW-Green Bay
Marilyn Kaufmann, Department Chair, Associate Degree, Nursing, Lakeshore Technical College
Anne Kok, Associate Professor and Chair, Social Work, UW-Green Bay
Dubear Kroening, Assistant Professor, Biological Sciences, UW-Fox Valley
Timothy Meyer, Professor, Communication, UW-Green Bay
Therese Nemeč, Department Chair, Social Science, Fox Valley Technical College
Mary Peterson, Department Chair, Technical Communications, Fox Valley Technical College
Margaret Rentmeester, Nursing Instructor, Moraine Park Technical College
Denise Robson, Associate Professor, Economics, UW-Oshkosh
Christine Roth, Associate Professor, English, UW-Oshkosh
Marilyn Sagrillo, Associate Professor, Accounting, UW-Green Bay
Victor Schueller, Instructor of Anatomy and Physiology, Lakeshore Technical College
James Simmons, Professor, Political Science, UW-Oshkosh
Ryan Winn, Faculty Member, Communications/Theater, College of Menominee Nation
Terri Wusterbarth, Anatomy Physiology Instructor, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

Appendix A: Budget Proposal 2008-09

1. Proposed Budget Scenarios

(Both budgets assume the continued use, without charge, of the Bordini Center at Fox Valley Technical College for the Group's meetings. This is an ideal centrally located and accessible location. Thank you Dave Buettner and Susan May!)

a. Decentralized Budget*

Conference Costs (estimates based on 100 participants)

Food	\$1,600
Supplies, Printing, Folders	\$ 470

TOTAL **\$2,070**

*This scenario presents the direct costs of a large conference and assumes that individual institutions will continue to 1) underwrite the mileage costs of the travel to the conference for the faculty participants; 2) pay the yearly \$1,000 stipends and travel mileage for their respective members of the Dialogue Group; and, 3) take turns paying for the light lunch for each of the Dialogue Group's meetings. It also assumes that the institution hosting the conference will not charge rent.

b. Centralized Budget**

Faculty Dialogue Group Meetings

Stipends @ \$1,000	\$28,000
Est. Travel to meetings***	3,570
Lunches for meetings****	1,512

Conference Costs

Food	1,600
Est. Travel for participants*****	2,125
Supplies, Printing, Folders	<u>470</u>

TOTAL **\$37,277**

**This scenario presents all costs associated with the Faculty Dialogue Group and is based on a 28-person membership plan

***Travel estimated on 50 miles round trip x 28 members x 6 meetings @ \$.425

****Lunches estimated at \$9/lunch x 28 people x 6 meetings

*****Travel for conference participants based on 50 miles round trip x 100 participants @ \$.425

Appendix B: Membership Plan

NEW ERA Faculty Dialogue Group for 2008-09

In August 2007, the NEW ERA Board approved a 28-member Faculty Dialogue Group with initial terms to be two years and, at the end of the term, the option to “re-enlist” for one more year as a “veteran.” The membership is distributed as follows:

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Number of Members</u>
UW Oshkosh	5
UW-Green Bay	5
UW Colleges	4
Northeast Wisconsin Technical College	3
Fox Valley Technical College	3
Lakeshore Technical College	3
Moraine Park Technical College	3
College of Menominee Nation	2
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>28</u>

During 2007-08, the FDG had one death and two unfilled seats. The unfilled seats came from the UW Colleges and Moraine Park Technical College. At the end of 2007-08, seven “veterans” retired from the FDG. The five who completed their two-year terms have opted to continue as “veterans” in 2008-09. And two members resigned due to moves out of the area, but one of these vacancies has already been filled. Therefore, going into 2008-09 with the current 28-member group, there will be 11 vacancies to fill, distributed as follows:

2008-09 Faculty Dialogue Group

UW Oshkosh

1 Vacancy

- Christine Roth – “Veteran”
- Michael Beeth – “Veteran”
- Grady Bullington – “One-Year”
- Denise Robson – “One-Year”

FVTC

1 vacancy

- Mary Peterson – “Veteran”
- Kim Horejs – “One Year”

UW-Green Bay

3 vacancies

- Bob Howe – “One-Year”
- John Katers – “One Year”

MPTC

1 vacancy (on-going vacant)

- Maggie Rentmeester – “Veteran”
- Al Hanisch – “One Year”

UW Colleges

3 vacancies

- Missy Skurzewski – “Two Years”
(appointed to replace a resignation)

LTC

2 vacancies

- Marilyn Kaufman – “One Year”

NWTC

0 vacancies

- Mike Albertson – “Veteran”
- Brooke Dyer – “One Year”
- Terri Wusterbarth – “One Year”

CMN

0 vacancies

- Ryan Winn – “One Year”
- Stephanie Erdmann – “One Year”

Important notes:

During the year, the suggestion was made at a NEW ERA Board meeting that a faculty representative from UW-Extension be added to the FDG. The group had wanted to discuss this suggestion with the UW-Extension representative but did not have an opportunity to do so this year. However, the NEW ERA Board may want to authorize the addition of a representative from UW-Extension for 2008-09.

As mentioned in last years report, the FDG would like to see and encourages the Board to consider more representation from the UW Colleges (currently at 4). The group understands there are financial issue involved with this, and will leave this decision up to the leadership of the Colleges. As with the addition of a UW-Extension representation, the NEW ERA Board will have to determine the final size of the group and the institutional distribution.

Appendix C: Conference Agenda

Time	Activity	Location/Facilitator
8:30-9:00	Registration, continental breakfast, find table seats (table number indicated on nametag)	Large room All facilitate
9:00-10:00	Introductions and Welcome: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome/Overview of NEW ERA (30 mins) • Recent activities/accomplishments FDG (15 mins) • Brief description of similarities/differences between the three institutions (15 mins) 	Large room Facilitator: Tim Meyer Rick Wells Michael Jurmu James Simmons
10:00-10:30	Role of the Tribal Colleges	Large room Ryan Winn
10:30-10:45	Break	Large room
10:45-11:15	Video: Student/others experiences re: transfers	Kim Horejs
11:15-12:00	Discussion at tables <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • thoughts/reflections on video • brainstorm ideas on collaboration • How can we get more collaboration started? 	Large room NEW ERA members assigned to tables
12-12:45	Lunch	Large room
12:45-1:15	New initiatives of NEW ERA FDG	John Katers
1:30-3:00	Breakout sessions according to discipline with following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best practices dealing with students • Best practices engaging students in general education • Common curricula?? How does this affect transferability?? • Technology and classrooms issues—blended, distance, online • What is your college doing? (Conferences, innovations, etc.) • How/what is the best way to connect? (Facebook, Google Groups) 	Small rooms: 4 sessions divided by discipline (nursing, education, sustainability/environmental services, and health/biosciences) NEW ERA members assigned by discipline to facilitate
3-3:30	Closing/Evaluations/Raffle	Large room Tim Meyer—facilitator Mike Beeth--raffle

Conference Evaluation Summary

About 75 people attended the April 18 conference at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. The faculty who attended were from UW – Green Bay, UW –Oshkosh, UW-Fox Valley, UW-Fond du Lac, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Fox Valley Technical College, Moraine Park Technical College, Lakeshore Technical College, and the College of Menominee Nation.

The conference primarily mostly focused on faculty in the sciences, education, and health-related fields. The conference’s goals revolved around providing faculty from the different types of institutions with the opportunity to do the following:

- learn more about the differences and similarities among the various institutions;
- learn more about the benefits of inter-institutional collaboration;
- learn more about what is taught in their subject area at other institutions; and
- learn more about the teaching methods used by faculty in their subject area at other institutions.

Based on evaluations collected the day of the conference, the conference succeeded on all of these goals. For each question asked about these goals, the mean score was over 4 out of 5, with 5 being the highest level of agreement.

In addition, faculty were asked whether they felt they would continue to have contact with colleagues from other campuses. The mean score on this question was 3.9 out of 5.

Written comments were generally complimentary and many participants indicated that they would be interested in participating in the Faculty Dialogue Group’s Sustainability Initiative.

Appendix D: Faculty Dialogue Group Guiding Principles

The 2000 Fox River Valley Regional Economic Summit identified educational collaboration as a top priority among educational institutions within northeast Wisconsin. As a result the Northeast Wisconsin Educational Resource Alliance (NEW ERA) was created.

The current Mission Statement of the NEW ERA is a consortium of the leaders of the thirteen public colleges and universities in northeast Wisconsin who foster regional partnerships to serve better the educational needs of the 1.2 million people of northeast Wisconsin. The current Vision Statement is that NEW ERA will be a valued leader in: (1) collaborating to serve northeast Wisconsin with quality, seamless education; (2) providing essential resources for communities, businesses and government; and (3) driving regional--and thereby state--economic development and stability.

In the summer of 2005, the NEW ERA Board requested a Faculty Dialogue Group (FDG) be established of volunteers representing the different institutions involved in the alliance. The overall charge to the group was based on a strategy of the NEW ERA Board to develop a more seamless higher educational

environment for students among the various NEW ERA institutions. Specifically the group was to

1. identify and clarify interinstitutional collaboration issues between the educational institutions,
2. explore teaching and curriculum in the educational institutions, particularly in relation to credit transfer potential, and
3. recommend specific strategies, activities and events to build stronger relationships among the faculty of NEW ERA institutions.

The following are the guiding principles for the FDG to guide them to achieve their charge from the NEW ERA Board.

1. MISSION

- 1.1.** The Faculty Dialogue Group (FDG) was established to and will continue to foster open discussion of Faculty & Instructional issues relating to the various institutions within the NEW ERA organization. The FDG will work as the vehicle to initiate and maintain discussion to aid in collaboration among the faculty and instructors, and to work toward a better relationship between the NEW ERA institutions.

2. MEMBERSHIP

2.1. Eligibility

- 2.1.1. All faculty and instructors under contract at any of the NEW ERA institutions are eligible to participate in the Faculty Dialogue Group (FDG).
- 2.1.2. A “veteran” will be a member who has served at least 2 years in the group.
- 2.1.3. A “continuing member” will be a member who is in the second year of FDG membership.
- 2.1.4. A “new member” will be a member who is in his or her first year of FDG membership.

2.2. Institutional Representatives

- 2.2.1. All NEW ERA institutions are encouraged to have at least one representative on the FDG.
- 2.2.2. The NEW ERA Board will annually approve the actual number of FDG representatives they will support.

3. OFFICERS

- 3.1.** The FDG will maintain a minimum of 3 Officers responsible for guiding, directing, and recording the activities of the group.
 - 3.1.1. The Chair will be responsible for overall function of the group. The Chair’s responsibility will include, but is not limited to
 - conducting FDG meetings including development of the meeting agendas
 - establishing ad hoc committees and charging them with specific responsibilities
 - 3.1.2. The Vice-Chair will be responsible for aiding the Chair in their responsibilities, and conduct FDG meetings in the absence of the Chair. The Vice-Chair will become the Chair by default in the following year.
 - 3.1.3. The Recorder will be responsible for maintaining the minutes of each meeting and any other reports created by the group. The Recorder has the power to delegate this responsibility to other FDG members when necessary. The Recorder will become the Vice-Chair by default in the following year.
- 3.2.** The three Officers will be representative of three of the four different institution types associated with the NEW ERA (University of Wisconsin Comprehensives, University of Wisconsin Colleges, Wisconsin Technical Colleges, and the Tribal Colleges).
- 3.3.** New Members to the FDG should not be eligible to be Chair or Vice-Chair, and it is preferred that Veterans not be a Vice-Chair.
- 3.4.** Elections will be conducted at the first meeting of an academic year to elect a new Recorder.

- 3.4.1. In the event an Officer from the previous year is no longer an eligible member of the FDG or has resigned his or her position, a special election will be held to elect a new Officer.
- 3.4.2. The vacant Officer position should be filled with eligible members from the same institution type as the previous Officer. An exception to this can be approved by a majority vote by the entire FDG membership as long as three different institution types are represented by the Officers.
- 3.5. All elections shall be by anonymous paper ballot. No matter the number of candidates, a majority of votes will determine the winner of the election.
 - 3.5.1. If a majority is not attained by a candidate on the first election, another election will be conducted with the candidates with the two highest percentage of the first election (indicating more than 2 candidates can be in the next election).

4. FUNCTION

- 4.1. The function of the FDG will be to accomplish its mission through various activities relating, but not limited to
 - annual reports generated by the FDG
 - relevant issues identified by the FDG as concurrent to the mission not previously addressed
 - directive from the NEW ERA Board
 - 4.1.1. An agenda of specific activities for the coming year will be provided or established at the first meeting of the academic year and approved by the entire FDG by a majority vote.

5. BUDGET

- 5.1. Before the end of the academic year, the Officers of the FDG will develop a budget for the coming year to propose to the NEW ERA Board of Director.
- 5.2. The NEW ERA Board will review the proposal and approve an annual budget for the FDG to conduct its activities for the next year before the first meeting of the next academic year of the FDG.
- 5.3. The FDG will utilize any designated funds for specific activities by the Board for those activities only.
- 5.4. Funds not designated for specific activities will be utilized by the group to supplement the designated activities or to conduct any other activities as approved by a majority of the FDG.

6. REPORTING

- 6.1. The FDG will produce an annual report outlining their activities, outcomes, and proposed future activities to the NEW ERA Board of Directors. This report will be produced by the Officers or an ad hoc committee charged by the Officers.
- 6.2. When requested by the NEW ERA Board of Director, representatives from the FDG will also present in person their report to the Board.