

FAUS-COE Research Committee

3/03/08

Minutes

Present: Nancy Brown, Kelly Williams, Tammy Bresnahan, Marla Brady, John Hardman, Lorraine Cross, Ira Bogotch

Apologies: Gail Burnaford, Cynthia Core, Susan Toth, Jenny O'Sullivan

1. Congratulatory comments were shared by those present regarding the success of last Friday's Research Mixer. We witnessed good conversations and networking across the FAU Schools and FAU faculty.
2. John Hardman will send an e-mail to all Research Mixer attendees on behalf of the Committee, thanking them for attending and asking how the Committee can facilitate continued research efforts.
3. It was decided that we would establish a calendar whereby in Fall, we would hold a Research Mixer; in Spring, we would hold a Colloquium for Lab School Researchers; and, in Summer, we would plan an Institute for professional development. The questions of resources and funding were discussed and will be discussed further at the next meeting.
4. No two FAU schools are the same. Therefore, we will devise strategies to promote cultures of research to fit each venue, from Slattery to Pine Jog to Palm Point in Tradition to Henderson. All research has an ethical dimension [e.g., do no harm]; but research must also be consistent with support and resources. For our mission to succeed, we must work toward the professionalization of teachers at every level within the FAU school-system. It is one thing to rely on individual integrity and professionalism; it is another to expect research efforts to emerge from intangible rewards and internal incentives. We urge our administrative colleagues to work for greater equity across the FAU schools.
5. We have developed a process model that promotes research across FAU schools. The model holds that we should be supportive and invitational, offer professional development, resources, and shared ideas [e.g., common planning times, SMaRT subs, professional development including Action Research, Self-Directed Learning, Leadership, etc.]. We will continue to learn from our work at Henderson and with its talented faculty. We will encourage Pine Jog to consider affiliate membership in NALS; we will work with Palm Beach Schools to build capacity for its green school facility to serve as a model for demonstration projects and research; we will support continued professional development at Slattery [i.e., its next PDD is March 21st: Demystifying Research]; increased faculty networking at Slattery now includes Yash Bhagwanji, Mike Brady, Gail Burnaford, and Dilys Schoorman; the new Palm Point school in Tradition is a charter school and has research in its mission. Therefore, we will begin video conference communications with Palm Point on or before August 08.

6. It was suggested that FAU schools consider hosting a statewide or NALS-like or NALS conference in the near future.

Minutes prepared by Ira Bogotch, Secretary.