

## FAUS & COE Research Committee Minutes

Monday, August 29, 2011

3:00 - 4:15 pm

**Present:** Steve Rios, Terri Watson, Julie Hector, Lydia Bartram, Nancy Brown, John Hardman, Tammy Ferguson, Israel Lopez, Rudy Collum, Glenn Thomas, Lorraine Cross, Deb Snyder (telephone), Trish Konopelko (telephone), Kathleen Melrose (telephone), Kathleen Perez (telephone), Latricia Thompson, Heather Davis

Steve Rios introduced Tammy Ferguson, new principal, and Rudy Collum, new assistant principal, for A. D Henderson University School.

Minutes from April meeting were unanimously approved. John Hardman motioned to approve, Terri Watson seconded motion.

### **Reflections from 2010-11: Steve Rios**

- 1) **Virtual Conference:** first one ever done and it was a big success. Looking forward to this year's virtual conference
- 2) **Dissemination:** this was the committee's focus this past year and significant strides were made to promote research dissemination at multiple levels.
- 3) **Research Project List:** As a result of the committee's dissemination efforts, the Lab Schools research project list made it to the Board of Governors office and it was received positively. The committee needs to think about how to disseminate to school districts statewide. A big thanks to Glenn Thomas for making that happen.
- 4) **Research Newsletter:** Steve Rios complimented Julie Hector on maintaining the newsletter and project lists. Lorraine Cross commented that it feels like we are making real progress with dissemination. Deb Snyder is proud of the team effort and of the work that has been done.
- 5) **Research Symposium/Mixers:** Terri Watson commented on the research mixer during the President's inauguration. For the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the committee should look at what been done since inception. Palm Pointe should look back over the past four years. Steve Rios and Lydia Bartram reported on the Student Achievement Council (SAC) research symposium. It is scheduled for November 29, 2011 at FAU High.

### **Looking at the Year Ahead: Glenn Thomas reported on the following needs:**

- 1) "Closing the Gap": Teacher Training and Development is key to achieving this
- 2) Incentives for teachers: Henderson has this structure and the Karen Slattery Center and Palm Pointe need it

### 3) Promote Connections: How to incorporate technology

Glenn also announced his retirement date as April 30, 2012. He wants to support everyone as much as possible before the transition of his position occurs.

Steve Rios discussed the opportunity for the committee to be involved with Glenn's replacement.

### **NALS Conference: Terri Watson**

Terri announced that the conference this year will be held at Florida State University. She is one of three editors on the NALS e-journal, which is hosted by Rhode Island College. This will be a great way to promote dissemination.

### **Vision for Henderson & FAU High: Tammy Ferguson reported the following goals/needs:**

- 1) Research on how to increase proficiency of students, especially those who remain in low performing groups
- 2) Tackling the achievement gap
- 3) Socioeconomic status cannot be used as a barrier so strategies need to be investigated to reach children in this category
- 4) Staff development and parent institutes
- 5) The current data regarding the achievement gap creates her vision in the year ahead
- 6) Rich, integrated curriculum with culturally relevant pedagogy

Steve Rios commented that potential ideas can be taken from the lab schools and used in research classes. Lorraine Cross added that this could also turn into service learning opportunities.

### **Committee Positions for 2011-12: Steve Rios**

Co-chair: Trish Konopelko

Secretary: Heather Davis

### **Goals for 2011-12:**

- 1) Support 20 new projects at Palm Pointe
- 2) Port St Lucie Research Mixer
- 3) Virtual Research Symposium
- 4) Increase support for Palm Pointe: get teachers on FAU library databases, stronger faculty presence, more involvement from FAU graduate students
- 5) Schedule committee meeting and tour at Palm Pointe
- 6) Strengthen involvement with other FAU campuses on the committee (Jupiter/Davie)
- 7) Promote School improvement/vision process

8) Promote transformational teaching vs. direct instruction

### **School Reports:**

**Palm Pointe:** Trish Konopelko reported that their first research meeting will be in a few weeks.

**Slattery Center:** Lydia Bartram reported on a new proposed study that will involve EEG results on how a young child's brain responds to facial expressions. Nancy Brown is thrilled that Tammy Ferguson has been appointed as new principal at Henderson and looks forward to new collaborative projects. She also reported on increased accountability of teachers in relation to curriculum implementation and explained plans to work on a grant opportunity with Dr. Romance and Dr. Grief on cognition and science learning.

**Henderson/FAU High:** Terri Watson reported on two studies with the Department of Psychology. The High School has also been expanded. There is a need to review research guidelines before putting them online. Terri also reported on a grant opportunity involving STEM and first research roundtable was held.

### **Research Summary Report: Julie Hector**

Lab schools need to send information to Julie so she can update the report with recently completed, ongoing and new research studies.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

September 26

October 24

November 28

Time has been changed to 3:15-4:30 pm