

**Senior Staff Meeting**  
**July 14, 2008**  
**Meeting Notes**

Attending: Theresa Aragon, Don Bantz, John Carmichael, Art Costantino, Lee Hoemann, Steve Hunter, John Hurley, Les Purce, Todd Sprague, Julie Suchanek, Allen Toothaker, Steve Trotter

**Minutes**

The notes from the previous meeting were approved with one change.

**Announcements**

- Don Bantz reported on the Curriculum for the Bioregion Summer Institute.

**Update on Community Dialogue**

Paul Gallegos joined the meeting to provide an update on the college's partnership with the City of Olympia and the Dispute Resolution Center to organize a community dialogue. The initial effort to organize a dialogue broke down when some local activists dropped out of the planning process. The planners have re-grouped. They plan a small dialogue on July 15 to try out the facilitation model.

**Holiday Schedule**

John Hurley discussed the proposed holiday schedule for 2009. The group has previously discussed taking Veteran's Day as a holiday instead of December 24. In 2009, the December 24 holiday would create a four-day weekend, so this does not seem like a good year to make that change. Discussion with the labor unions would be needed before making the change.

**Performance Agreements**

Julie Suchanek provided an update on work toward a performance agreement. Evergreen's committee will convene on July 15. A major question facing Evergreen is how to define the college's peer group. The statewide committee was unable to schedule another meeting in July, but staff work continues. Several institutions continue to discuss a common framework for their proposed institutional agreements, but considerable variation remains. Some institutions are defining "cost" as per student funding; others are looking at student indebtedness. First drafts of the institutional proposals are due on August 15. That is the same day that NCHEMS, the statewide committee's consultant, will report. The institutions are suggesting that deadlines be staggered to give the institutions time to respond to the NCHEMS report.

**Awareness and Reputation**

Todd Sprague shared analysis of a statewide poll that asked about respondent's awareness and opinion of Evergreen. The poll is similar to one conducted in 2005. Compared to the 2005 poll, the new poll shows that the college's "favorable" and "unfavorable" ratings have both increased.

**Town/Gown Discussion**

The group began a discussion about relationships with the local community. The topic soon shifted to focus on the campus climate. The group discussed the college's ability to engage in dialogue, how new members of the community are exposed to Evergreen's core values, and how changes in governance and on-line tools affect the campus culture.