

Subcommittee Notes for May 10, 2005

Quick-win ideas from the Community Partnerships Committee

1. Incorporate the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a component of academic focus for students in multiple disciplines (consider composition classes, history courses, political science courses etc.)
2. Identify and bring the resources of the ethnic and refugee communities within our region to the classroom by creating a speakers list of those willing to share experience and expertise and circulate that list among faculty interested in incorporating such a resource into their syllabus.
3. Consider a University subscription to SCOLA, a network channel comprised of 120 international news channels broadcasting in various languages.
4. Consider adapting food plan options to make residential on campus housing more affordable for international students. Also along financial lines, consider reducing out of state tuition rates for international students who demonstrate satisfactory academic progress after their first successful semester at Boise State.
5. Work with Todd Knowles (LDS Institute of Religion) to connect international students with LDS students recently returned from international missions. These students have achieved language facility, have first hand knowledge of the country where they served and are eager to stay connected with and befriend people from other countries. They may be very willing to serve as mentors to assist incoming international students.

Collaborative thoughts:

1. The International Trade division of the Commerce Department is willing to assist BSU students interested in international internship placement in core industries including the mechanical industries represented on campus in the Seland College. (contacts: Stephanie Hunt, Damien Bard). Special consideration should be given to industries aligned with recent trade missions. The Commerce Department would also be willing to work co-operatively with Boise State to build city/state ties and jointly seek funding.
2. Contact Dan Prinzing of the Department of Education for assistance with grants. He is a strong proponent of internationalization.

3. Work with Nancy Napier regarding Title 6 grants and other potential monetary sources.

4. Work with AFS on Service learning internships. They also have a program. (contacts with AFS—Hanna Lee Betz.)

Additional Suggestions

1. Include international students on the subcommittees or survey them directly to find out first hand what attracted them here and what difficulties they have experienced.

2. Be sure that educators have the necessary tools to address sentiments on diversity, internationalization. Consider some training the trainers sort of opportunities.