Seahawks SOAR Advisory Committee (Minutes for April 23, 2015 meeting)

Attendance

Jamie Clark, Chair of QEP Advisory Committee, Diana Crutchfield, Student Book Clubs member; Viridiana Mendoza, SGA member; Christina Wilbur, Faculty Book Club member; Charles Gongre, QEP Advisory Committee member ; Barbara Huval, Student Book Clubs member; Chandra Brooks, Sub-Chair of Reading Strategies; Grade Megnet, Sub-Chair of Information Boards; and Laura Stafford, Co-Director of QEP Implementation

It was reported that Zeb Lowe. Chad Clark, Kash Cox, Laurie Marcantel, Lawanda Brown, and Nancy Stretcher were unable to attend due to meetings, seminars, and other obligations.

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm. Rules of parliamentary procedures were suspended.

1. Sub-committee Reports

Jamie Clark gave a report regarding the Faculty Book Club. It was reported that there had been a positive turnout for the Spring Semester 2015 Faculty Book Club. The Faculty Book Club has been met with enthusiasm from its various members from different departments and educational backgrounds. It was reported that 6 members (including faculty, staff, and administration) participated in the book club. If The Devil Had A Wife by Frank Mills (Rebecca Stark Nugent) was the book of choice for the Spring Semester 2015. Overall, the Faculty Book Club was successful and enjoyed by the book club members. A tentative trip to visit Shangri-La Gardens and Evergreen Cemetery has been scheduled for Faculty Book Club members on May 22, 2015.

Laura Stafford gave a report for Zeb Lowe regarding the Student Book Club. If The Devil Had A Wife by Frank Mills (Rebecca Stark Nugent) was the book of choice for the Spring Semester of 2015. It was reported that the Early Bird Book Club started with 4 students and all 4 completed and 3 of them were able to attend the evening presentation. It was reported that 2 of the Early Bird Book Club members and 1 Student Success Center Book Club member visited the Shangri-La Gardens on April 11, 2015. One member brought their mother and another brought a younger cousin. It was a successful venture. It was reported that the Facebook Book Club had 2 students participate and 1 of the students was able to attend the evening performance. It was reported that 25 students completed the Survey Monkey to be entered into the drawing for the Nook. It was reported that 78 students heard the presentation by Rebecca Stark Nugent at the 9 am and 10 am day sessions in the Theater and 53 students attended the evening book signing and presentation at the Parker Center. It was reported that door prize drawings were successful and the 2 students who won the Nook drawing were in attendance. Pictures of the evening were posted on the campus Facebook page. Ms. Nugent was well received and it was an enlightening and enjoyable evening.

Grace Megnet gave a report regarding the Information Bulletin Board Sub-committee. It was reported that the Student Book Clubs contributed to the QEP boards that are interactive: concept maps, KWL, context clues, and Quizlet. This produced detailed involvement and appropriate responses. The boards will be taken down for the summer and the remounted in August so it will catch the eye of students as they go to the various buildings. The strategies will rotate through the campus.

Chandra Brooks gave a report regarding the Reading Strategies Sub-committee. It was reported that reading strategies will remain the same and continue to be used in the Fall Semester of 2015. The report included examples of the reading strategies including instruction, book clubs, interactive bulletin boards, and presentations. It was reported that Dr. Laura Stafford, in all three of her SPC 1315 sections, encourages students to use the Underlining/Annotating method by underlining, circling and highlighting certain parts of definitions or other lecture information given in class or on Blackboard audio lecture files. At the beginning of the semester, Dr. Stafford also promotes use of the SQ3R reading strategy with review questions for each chapter of the textbook. The objective is to assist students in actively reading the chapters each week. It was reported that Dr. Richard Pollock uses Quizlet, via the flashcards feature in his A&P labs and nutrition classes to prepare for major tests and lab projects. It was reported that the Department of Developmental Education focuses on and incorporates Note Taking & Highlighting (i.e. Annotating), Outlining & Mapping (i.e. Timeline, Cluster Map, and Flow Chart), Context Clues, Reading Textbooks (i.e. SQ3R) in ENGL 0301 and ENGL 0327 IRW courses. Also, the IRW course utilizes the novel as part of its course through review, discussion, and enrichment activities. It was reported that faculty should continue to insert reading strategies whenever and wherever applicable. It was also reported to continue to promote viewing of the training videos to students and new faculty. It was reported that the book clubs provide an opportunity for involvement of staff and students interested in the enhancement of reading through discussion and review of text. These clubs meet in various sites across the campus and at various times in order to accommodate individual schedules and availability. An accompaniment to this endeavor typically includes an end-of-session gathering that highlights the novel read (i.e. trips to places visited by or pertinent to the character(s) in the book, guest authors of book club books, and presentations by LSCPA book club sponsors). It was reported that the Gates Library’s “Gates-Go-Getters” focus on visual content depicting family members and other items of interest in the book. The Student Success Center’s “SOAR Reading Club” focuses on reading strategies (KWL) and LSCPA strategies training video links. It was reported that the Ruby Fuller Print Shop’s “Ruby Readers” focus on literary elements of the novel, lunch, and discussion.

Jamie Clark gave a report for Chad Clark regarding the Reading Resource Sub-committee. It was reported that all of the links provided for the Seahawks SOAR web page are working and there have been no broken links reported.

1. Implementation and Assessment Report

Dr. Laura Stafford reported that the Metacognitive Awareness of Reading Strategies Inventory (MARSI) has been administered to students in the Technical Program capstone courses and sophomore students in the Academic Program courses. It was reported that the statistics regarding the MARSI will be presented at Faculty Development Days August 19-20, 2015.

It was also reported that the Nelson Denny Reading Pre/Post Test will be given to students during the Fall Semester of 2015. In the QEPs second year (Fall of 2014) a far larger number of freshmen academic general education classes were chosen as intervention classes in order to increase the number of first time students obtained for the experimental group.

III. Fall Semester 2015 Plans

Jamie Clark reported that Blink by Malcolm Gladwell will be the book of choice for the Fall Semester of 2015 for the Faculty Book Club and Harry Truman’s Excellent Adventure by Matthew Algeo for the Spring Semester of 2016. It was reported at this time that Laurie Marcantel had contacted Learning Ally which provides books in alternative formats such as audio/electronic text versions to students with print/reading disabilities. It was reported that If The Devil Had A Wife had been placed on the list to be offered in an alternative format. It was reported that the same can be done with future books to be used by the book clubs.

Dr. Laura Stafford reported that Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradberry will be the book of choice for the Fall Semester of 2015 for the Student Book Club and Brave New World by Aldous Huxley for the Spring Semester of 2016. Due to reading science fiction books and the authors of both books being deceased, it was recommended that films are shown in place of presentations. Due to budget constraints it was recommended to show “The Book of Eli” , a fairly recent film that is loosely tied to the theme of lost books and the character “becomes the living book” to salvage the knowledge. This film will be viewed during the Fall Semester of 2015 while students are reading Fahrenheit 451. It was recommended to view the Leonard Nemoy version of Brave New World. It was recommended to continue to use the Parker Center Banquet Room. Popcorn and sodas can be served during the films and after the door prizes drawings will take place. This can cut the price of a guest speaker but still have an evening event. A tentative date to view the film “The Book of Eli” was set for November 9, 2015 at the Parker Center.

The committee accepted these reports by unanimous vote.

The next Seahawk SOAR Advisor Committee meeting was tentatively set for Thursday, November 12, 2015 at 2:30 pm. This meeting was adjourned at 3 pm

Respectfully Submitted by

**Jamie Clark**

Jamie Clark, Chair of QEP Advisory Committee