



Perspectives

Newsletter of the Pennsylvania School Study Council

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2009 Academics and Athletic Workshop: Issues Facing Administrators, Counselors, Athletic Directors and Coaches

The 2009 Academics and Athletics Workshop held this past fall in the Founders Lounge at the Bryce Jordan Center was a successful and an informative event for the fifty participants. High school coaches, athletic directors, and guidance counselors from all regions in the state participated in the workshop. The PSSC partnered with Penn State Athletics and the PA State Athletic Directors Association to present this annual workshop.

Penn State Athletic Director Tim Curley welcomed study council members and guests to the workshop. During his remarks, Tim talked about the importance of maintaining effective communication between high school personnel and Penn State University on a range of matters related to academic qualifications and eligibility. Then Assistant Athletic Director for Student Athletes Services, Bruce Ellis discussed the certification of a high school prospect's initial eligibility and amateurism, including variations among NCAA divisions. Ellis also included remarks about NCAA changes in eligibility and academic preparedness for college.

The second major program during the morning session was a panel discussion presented by



four athletic leaders from Pennsylvania high schools. Each presenter gave remarks about athletic participation and eligibility for college based on experiences in their school district. Follow-

ing the individual presentations, the panelists responded to questions and comments from participants. The panelists were Dave Eavenson of Cumberland Valley, Arnie Fritzius of Red Land High School, Dave Bitting of Lower Dauphin, and Neal



Cobaugh of Greater Johnstown. Todd Moss, Assistant Director of Student Aid and Moradeyo Olorunnisola, Admissions Counselor, spoke to the group about matters related to student aid and the admissions process with specific details related to meeting NCAA Division I requirements.

David Yukelson, Director of Sport Psychology Services at Penn State gave an excellent presentation on the psychology of excellence, lessons learned from champion athletes, and what high school personnel can do to develop leadership skills within student-athletes. The leadership skills identified by Dave can be productive in athletic and academic settings.

Coaches from various Penn State intercollegiate sports including head coaches, Robbie Wine, Coquese Washington, Dawna Prevette, and Denise St. Pierre visited with participants during lunch to informally discuss matters related to their sport. This working lunch made the full day productive for all attendees.

The 14th Annual Ethics and Values Conference

The 2009 Ethics and Values Conference "Exploring the Meta-Values of Authentic Leadership: Moral Literacy in Action" was held at Penn State this past fall at the Nittany Lion Inn. The conference included powerful speakers such as Charles Bur-



ford, from Australian Catholic University. He was the recipient of the D.J. Willower Center for the Study of

Leadership and Ethics Award of Excellence. Another fellow Australian Catholic University speaker was Dr. Christopher Branson whose research interests focus on the role of self-reflection within leadership and exploring the nature and function of wisdom in guiding educational leaders.



an Ojibwe enrolled member of the Mississippi Band Anishinaabeg and works on the White Earth Reservations. Her speech titled *Rethinking America, Human Rights, Apology, Ecology and the Future* promotes awareness and support for frontline native environmental groups. Her keynote address engaged the audience in provocative conversations and interactions during the question and answer session.

The two day conference was well attended by faculty members of various universities around the country and all over the world.

The conference kicked off with a paramount keynote address by Winona La-Duke. She is

Keynote speaker Dr. Nancy Tuana brilliantly merged the conference themes in the final keynote speech where she empha-



sized the importance of looking out for student's interests and experiences.

The Annual Ethics and Values Conference is sponsored by The Willower Center for the Study of Leadership and Ethics (UCEA



Program Center), The Pennsylvania School Study Council and the Pennsylvania State University.

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Get Published!

Submit your work to PSSC's peer refereed journal...

THE BEACON

Manuscript Requirements:

Generally, manuscripts should be between 2,500 and 5,000 words in length. Prospective author(s) must include a statement which indicates they agree to the submission of the manuscript, and that the manuscript has not been published, and is not under consideration for publication, in part or in substance, elsewhere.

Manuscripts should be double-spaced and leave wide margins. Manuscripts should not identify the author(s) of the work. A separate page should be included which provides the author(s)' details, including contact information (address and e-mail).

Send to Stephanie Cardona, editor at smc1046@psu.edu

American Indian Leadership Program 40th Anniversary



The American Indian Leadership Program in the Penn State College of Education will celebrate its 40th anniversary during the 2009–10 academic year. The College and University communities are invited to participate in a number of events planned throughout the year that will recognize the achievements of the program, its faculty, current students, and alumni.

Penn State's AILP is the nation's oldest continuously operating educational leadership program for American Indians and Alaska Natives. Since the program was founded in 1970, more than 220 American Indian and Alaska Native students have earned master's and doctoral degrees from the program and have gone on to pursue leadership positions at the local, tribal, state, and national levels.

Students and faculty from the program attended the 23rd Annual Convention of the University Council for Educational Administration held in November 19-22 in Anaheim, California.

The panel was comprised of Dr. Susan Faircloth from The Pennsylvania State University, Grayson Noley from The University of Oklahoma, Dr. John Tippeconnic from The Pennsylvania State University, Dana Christman from the University of New Mexico, Jane Harstad from the Pennsylvania State University and Hollie Mackey from the Pennsylvania State University.

Their session titled *Learning to Lead: Challenges and Opportunities Encountered in Preparing American Indian and Alaska Native School Leaders in Mainstream Colleges and Universities* addressed the challenges, opportunities and important lessons learned in developing and sustaining leadership preparation programs for American Indian and Alaska Native students in mainstream institutions of higher education. Participants will identify and discuss ways in which faculty and students work to resolve the tension between living and learning in western-based educational environments and preparing to work with Native schools and communities.

Executive Director's Perspective

The PSSC is experiencing many of the same challenges that most membership based organizations currently face. The essential question we try to resolve is how to provide a range of services that fit the needs of members along with an attractive membership fee.

Today our mission remains the same as in 1947, the year the PSSC was founded. We continue to dedicate the efforts of this long standing organization to improving public education in Pennsylvania by providing up-to-date research information, professional development activities, and technical assistance that will enable its members to provide top quality educational services to students. We connect the resources of the largest state university with basic education providers in Pennsylvania

Historically the PSSC has achieved its mission by providing useful publications that provided key statistical information

along with a range of research based articles. In addition, a variety of single event programs and study tours were provided based on topics of need and interest. The third critical link for sustaining participation in the PSSC has been the bond developed by administrators and key policy makers with Penn State as they earned certification and degrees granted from the university.

Today, these traditional services continue to connect members with Penn State. Just like school districts, intermediate units, and area technical schools, the PSSC must develop cost effective ways to provide useful staff development for members and to attract new organizations to join our network of services. We need to hear from you so we can achieve these objectives and to continue to fulfill our mission.

We are seeking your suggestions and insights about how

we can provide services to assist you in achieving your mission. Also, we are interested in suggestions about the types of programs that would be beneficial you and your staff. Please tell us how they need to be packaged to be attractive for you. Contact us by letter, by email, or by calling to give us feedback about these matters.

During the remaining portion of the year we will begin to make certain electronic communication tools available for members to correspond with the PSSC staff, Penn State faculty, and with other PSSC members.

We believe the direct exchange of information and services away from formal regulatory agencies can have a positive impact on students served in member organizations. Contact us so we can get the job done. With your help, the PSSC can think bigger and connect you with a premier Big 10 research institution.

The Pennsylvania School Study Council

Founded in 1947, the Pennsylvania School Study Council (PSSC) is a partnership between Penn State University and member school districts, intermediate units, and area vocational-technical schools. PSSC is dedicated to improving public education in Pennsylvania by providing up-to-date research information, professional development activities and technical assistance that will enable its members to provide top quality educational services to students.

Mission:

We believe that....

- PSSC's primary function is to provide services in response to identified member needs.
- PSSC services should be unique and have a competitive advantage.
- PSSC services should be easily attainable, timely, effective and helpful.
- PSSC must respond to changing circumstances with creativity and innovation.
- PSSC must use an entrepreneurial approach to providing services to its constituency.
- Professional integrity and responsible management of resources is essential.
- Personal contact is an important component of services offered and delivered.
- Integrity and collegiality must characterize relationships between PSSC, member LEA's and the University.