Student/Community Partnership Forum
Charlie’s Restaurant
3/30/15

Reporting out ideas from the groups:

Environmental Science/John Spencer reporting

- Put community service in as a core requirement in as a core requirement (3 credit hours)
- Community service requirement for faculty (and staff)
- Have practica available earlier in the students’ academic experiences

Education/Marlene Alarid reporting

- Create a position for liaison between NMHU and the local school districts who can help identify expert presenters for classrooms (faculty and grad students) and provide them with the information on the relevant standards and benchmarks that need to be addressed so the presentations can meet the needs for the teachers to address PED requirements. A paid intern or a graduate student in curriculum and instruction would be able to fill this type of position.

Economic Development/Bill Hendrickson reporting

- Already in discussion is the business incubator that will be located in Hewitt Hall. This will be a great place for professors and student to interface with the business community.
- Would be helpful to have help determining “What’s Missing from Las Vegas?” to make it a college town (work with students to find out what types of businesses they would patronize)
- The business community needs to find businesses that stay open until at least 2 am.

Medical/Social Services/ Rose Contreras-Taylor reporting

- Need to connect students to the community through community service opportunities, would be especially good to do this in their freshman year.
- Have freshman orientation include a tour of the community (take them to the railroad station, plaza, etc)
- Continue the “Welcome to Las Vegas” Fair for students of all the educational institutions (UWC, NMHU, LCC)
- Hold events off-campus to encourage students to get familiar with the community.
• Conduct career internship fairs for local businesses and not-for-profits.
• Approach campus life/student support groups about having clubs do community service.
• Connect NMHU students with community mentors and families (like the get-away program at the United World College).

Arts/Media Arts/Martha McCaffrey reporting

• Create a resource center for the community and NMHU to meet needs.
• Humanities should not be forgotten- can students with their writing ability.

Odds & Ends/Robert Amai reporting

• International students are interested in internships for the skills they can get, don’t necessarily need to be paid. Would allow them to get training.
• International students (and other students, too) need housing and transportation.
• There is a real need for off-campus housing.
• Creative solutions for the transportation are needed- such as bike rentals or trolleys or jointly run shuttle service.
• Need more activities for students but if businesses stay open late for students, we all need to support those businesses (and encourage students to do that, too). Also to support these businesses, we need more students so need to help with recruitment so
• Need to publicize the good things that happen at NMHU –like what Margaret McKinney does but also need to find other ways to highlight students, maybe a student wall of fame highlighting success stories.

Additional comments:

Veronica Karta Martinez:

Is a member of the Las Vegas Women’s Club and Las Vegas Dollies and she noted that they could use volunteers but don’t know how to reach out to students. There is a need for a way to communicate with students such as a student newspaper. She also noted that her club is available to support students who are young mothers but not sure how to reach them.

Ron Garcia:

Wanted to know if the community members thought it would be a good idea to have a part-time job fair with local businesses and not-for-profit volunteer opportunities. The response was positive with a suggestion for doing it in the early fall.