Learning Communities to Promote Mathematics Across the Curriculum

Math: The Eligible Bachelor!

Marrying Math with other classes in a Successful Learning Community.

Beverly Vredevelt, Spokane Falls Community College

WYMATYC Conference, February 8 – 9, 2008

What Does It Take?

- Clear learning objectives
- Clear Communication
- Administrative Support
- Hard Work (and some defined work loads)
- Students

What Type of Learning Community?

- Coordinated
- Paired
- Linked
- Cohorts
- Others

Administration

- Seek help and get them on board
- Be sure to think about what information will gain you support with your institution
- Be sure to plan for assessment of your project
- Think about your teaching load

How Do I Get Started?

- Work time with your partner
- Match up your objectives
- Develop Common Assignments/Assessments
- Design Class AROUND your objectives/assessments
- Develop Rubric

Designing Theme Based & Integrative Learning[1]

What are your big ideas? I.e. what do you most want your students to learn from your course (or discipline)?

What on and off campus resources will you use to teach these ideas?

Integrative Assignment

1. What is the assignment?

2. What learning outcomes does it support? How are they related to the outcomes for your disciplines?

3. How does it relate to your overall theme?

4. What resources are available for you and your students for this assignment?

5. What will the students do in each discipline to prepare for this assignment?

6. How will you assess the assignment? How does the assessment relate to each LC member's big ideas?

Resources

- MAC³ www.mac3. amatyc.org
- Electronic Bookshelf or Little Bookshelf in the Big Woods www.math.dartmouth .edu/~mqed/

- The Washington Center for Improving the Quality of Undergraduate Education www.evergreen.edu/ washcenter

Learning Communities

National Summer Institute
June 24 - June 28, 2008
The Evergreen State College,
Olympia, Washington

Deadline was December 2007

The Institute is designed to help campuses start or strengthen learning community programs. It draws on the wisdom of experienced learning community practitioners as well as the growing research on what makes learning communities an effective institutional change strategy aimed at improving student learning, persistence, and graduation.

Colleges and universities selected for the Institute are matched with resource faculty who are leaders in learning community work and other reform movements in higher education. Teams attend workshops designed around practical problems, consult with resource faculty, and create a campus action plan for learning community development.

The 2008 National Summer Institute on Learning Communities will be held in partnership with the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Faculty Development Network. The cost for the institute, including on-campus housing, is $935/person.

Curriculum Planning

Curriculum Planning Retreat - East

March 6 - 7, 2008
at Bozarth Retreat Center - Spokane, WA

Contact:

http://www.evergreen.edu/washcenter/eventInfo.asp?eid=276

Dena Jaskar
360-867-6606
jaskard evergreen.edu

Registration Deadline: February 26, 2008

MAC³

AMATYC SUMMER INSTITUTE

MATHEMATICS ACROSS THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE CURRICULUM
JULY 15–18, 2008

Middlesex Community College - Lowell, Massachusetts

The purpose of this Institute is to provide community college faculty with the time and assistance to develop mathematics across the curriculum activities and assessments. The Institute, modeled after other national MAC3 programs, offers an overview of the numerous and diverse ways mathematics can be integrated with other disciplines. Session topics include Service Learning and Civic Engagement, Learning Communities Models, Developing Learning Outcomes and Pre/Post Assessment, and Spreading the MAC Word through Changing the Culture. In addition, the Institute will provide extensive time for faculty teams to plan together and work with the Facilitator, as well as to share ideas with one another.