**Hopi Center Community Outreach Minutes**

March 22, 2017, Hopi Center: Community Meeting 1-2:30 PM; Student Focus Meeting 2:45-3:45 PM

NPC: Ann Hess, Director of Marketing chaired the meeting. Also in attendance, Peggy Belknap, CTE Dean and Jeremy Raisor, Director of Enrollment Services, Cara Dukepoo, Hopi Center Manager.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: In attendance was Cecilia Shortman, Hopi Tribe Grants and Scholarship, Elizabeth Nasewytewa, Hopi Tribe Guidance Center, Gail Pahona, Hopi Tribe, Monica Nuvamsa, Hopi Foundation.

DISCUSSION: Dr. Swarthout is retiring June 2018; NPC has started the Presidential search. Cholla closing will affect property tax revenue coming into the college. NPC has a new grant, TALON, which is a Hi-Definition video classroom in high schools; Hopi High School, Holbrook High School, Red Mesa High School, Winslow High School, Shonto High School, Snowflake High School and Blue Ridge High School are current high schools connected through the grant. NPC will add few more schools next year.

Hopi Office requested more accommodations for special needs students. NPC provided listening instrument but nothing academically. Suggestions were more time to submit assignments. The program doesn’t pay to retake classes.

The Hopi Scholarship helps with paying for associate degree not vocational degree. Funding for Associate degree requirements, part-time is 11 credits or less and fulltime is 12 credits or more and they must complete a minimum of 12 credits. There are 102 students registered at the Hopi Center this semester and Hopi Scholarship only helping 5 students. What can NPC staff do to help students apply for the tribal scholarship? The Hopi Center has hosted a scholarship essay workshop with careers services and NPC Friends and Family. NPC financial aid is aware of the tribal scholarship. They also wanted to dispel myth that only a few students are chosen for scholarship. The Hopi Tribe’s 2019 revenue is projected to decrease and right now the Hopi Tribe Grant and Scholarship gets an allocation of ½ million dollars. In 2015/2016 school year they didn’t spend $51,000 of their allocation. Their priority scholarship also pays a larger amount for the student. They also mentioned that they have issues with their FNA forms being processed. They indicated that the need the actual dollar amount, they are not being turned in on-time and they feel that the Navajo Nation Scholarship interferes with their deadline. It was suggested that it might be easier for students now due to the changes in FAFSA, with the utilization of the past two years of tax information.

Placement test changes have been implemented with High School GPA’s being used and the GPA of 2.6.

Why is there low enrollment at HOPI?

* Need consistent contact with instructor
* More classes at Center
* Transportation to other campuses.
* Limited pool of local instructors.
  + Need certified instructor for classes at center
  + NPC short of Math instructors
* Problem with video system
  + Student/faculty need better communication

What is NPC Doing To Help?

* NPC does offer housing scholarships, institutional scholarships and Friend and Family scholarships.
* NPC is working with Hopi High School to help provide instructors for classes.
* Royce Kincannon has worked with TERO and Hopi Housing in providing a Construction program. This might be an option for the Hopi WIOA program to provide a certificate program not currently offered at the NPC Hopi center.
* There is a new program, Cyber Security, which will be available online in the fall ’17 semester.
* A long-term plan is to have instructor on-site.
* Peggy Belknap mentioned that NPC does bring new faculty to tour First Mesa and then eat at the cultural center. She notes that there is no facilitation for tourism, no visitor center, no infrastructure and no public restroom. There is a need for planners and tour developers in Hopi.

Gail Pahona, Hopi Tribe Vocational Rehab is focusing on self-employment.

* Piki Making
* Corn Meal Grinding
* Bicycle shop

Peggy Belknap asked what can NPC do, that we don’t do or what are we doing right?

* Provides Career Workshops
* Self-Advocacy
* Students are afraid to ask questions

Jeremy Raisor talked about placement test changes and the new Starfish software.

Gail Pahona, why are we (Tribe) still sending students off-reservation? NPC needs to hold another workforce meeting.

Monica Nuvamsa: Does NPC have Americorp workers? It would be good to have one assigned to work on workforce development plan. The Hopi Foundation could reach out to NAU to develop a workforce plan with NPC. This sort of request would be directly made to the NPC President.

Peggy Belknap brought up the Whiteriver partnership and that students are currently building tiny houses in construction.

The Hopi Education Endowment Fund is doing a skills inventory for Hopi.

Big Needs of Hopi

* Special Education Teachers
* Bus Drivers
* Teacher Certification Prep
* Work Readiness class would be good for TANF workers.
* Soft Skills job training is needed

John Spadaccini can provide career workshops. Recommend program writes a letter of request and give to Hopi Center manager who will forward to John S.

There needs to be more admin to admin communication.

Jeremy R. mentioned that NPC will be using an electronic transcript service soon.

Student Focus Group Meeting: Students participated in the community meeting, no others available for the student focus group.