Minutes
Achieving the Dream
Team Meeting
March 6, 2007

Members Present: L. Primus, A. Kureczka, B. Lewis, J. Velez-Otero, C. Soler,
Minute Taker: Patricia Lindo

Meeting was called to order at 12:10pm.

I. Chair Administrative Matters/Updates
   1. Minutes – approved and will be posted on the web
   2. Educational Assistant (Latino Male) – Delete from Agenda
   3. SERC Round Table (Black and Latino Male Forum) – L. Primus asked if anyone will be attending the SERC Round Table meeting on March 29th – all responded no.
   4. Student Committee Representative – Mark Anigbo is the student that was recommended by Lilliam Martinez to invite him to be a part of this committee. He accepted but was unable to attend today’s meeting. Will notify him early about the next meeting.
   5. Other Item: L. Primus and other committee members attended “The Status of Latinos in Higher Education” on Thursday, March 1st at Central Connecticut State University. The name of the speaker is Felipe Luciano; he was very good and enlightening. He spoke about Latino issues from a historical perspective. He talked about blacks/Irish/Italians and that everybody goes through something – typically blacks has gone through most quite recently and we should appreciate what other immigrants go through. He talked about the Four ‘I’: Infrastructure – goal to hire Latino; Intensity/or passion – make Latino comfortable when they come here; Involvement of Community – college knows about these. Immersions of Academic Discipline – giving them general instructions and doing them first. D. Brewington is working on recruitment plan that we will follow.

II. Black and Latino Men’s Center Report - C. Soler

1. General Update on Center Activity:
   • It’s been crazy! Met with 4 students today. 1 student has 4 classes, a family. All 4 classes are photo classes and student has not purchased a camera.
   • 1 student has no green card – called a lawyer. Has problems working on a paper, will go with him to writing center.
   • Phone calls – 76 students taking developmental course. Some numbers no good, a few students come, some no show appointments.
• Students are working with problems outside of school.
  - 1 student had to go to Peru
  - Another student not aware of financial aid process
  - Personal issues interfere with school; working with them to solve some of these issues.
  - A. Kureczka noted that students at CCC have tremendous issues here at CCC.

2. **Annual Black and Latino Male Conference Update:**
   - Never plan this in March again because the schools are having CMTs. Set another date.
   - Need busses for Hartford Public: 30-40; Weaver High: 30-40; Buckley High: 30-40; no bus for Sports Science Academy – they will walk over.
   - L. Primus stated Patricia will handle logistics. She will be responsible for table, signs, setup, making sure the crowd move accordingly/food line flows
   - J. Velez-Otero did paperwork for auditorium and break out rooms – 10th & 11th floor rooms.
   - Will wrap up all speakers today and email to everyone. Today we will:
     - Call D. Brewington about flyer and have J. Bronfman look at flyer.
     - Flyers will be sent to schools, Systems Deans of Students Services/Activities.
     - Will contact J. Bronfman to post on plasma.
     - Flyer will be emailed to everyone and the Magnet School.
     - Finalize that Dr. Charles Groce will be the afternoon speaker.

3. **Spring 2007 Opening Reception:**
   - Not happy with reception – could do better. Not enough students came; 40 out of 600 showed up. Disappointed with himself.
   - A. Kureczka commended an excellent job done; better than the last time.
   - L. Primus said it was better but we need a lot more.
   - Received feedback from student. 4 students from the reception met with C. Soler.
   - C. Soler need new computer. The database has been taken care of and entered students in database who came to reception.

### III. CSN Request
• A request from S. Minkler about a Hispanic TV station; he is involved in bringing in the speaker.
• Would like to involve us to enhance their program as it relates to African Americans and Hispanic issues.
• Can we bring her in now/in April? This is an excellent idea and will give us additional marketing. Will call S. Minkler to setup in May to bring her in.
IV. **IDS Course taught by B&L Coordinators**

- A. Kureczka stated we need to put document together for Dean Affleck to say yes.
- Official D. Brewington & C. Soler will teach IDS course.
- What can we do to make sure D. Brewington & C. Soler are in the catalog:
  - A. Kureczka already turned in his schedule.
  - What does IDS course falls under?
  - Contact Marie Basche, she is working on it.
  - Will send letter to Dean Affleck and will put suggested day and time when C. Soler and D. Brewington will be available.
  - C. Soler will send his schedule.

V. **Update on Recruitment & Retention of Hispanic Male**

- This is an issue. Sent out email for current Sp07 enrollment and got email back. Why do we loose Latino male? If we lose 1, this is an issue.
- Met with Nancy Cardigan about how can we help and what can we do.
  - Some not financial aid eligible
  - Some were processed at 6 different levels.
  - Where she placed Latino males was how they tested on ESL
  - Because they test below the ESL course College entrance requirement, these students are referred to adult education programs
  - Adult education will accommodate them
- How much do we know if they will come back?
- In the summer we can pay an instructor through the grant and prepare them to take courses here. This way D. Brewington & C. Soler can work with them to prepare them.
- There were 32 Latino and Latinas who came and wanted to take courses and was referred to adult education due to testing below ESL requirements. This affected our number of Latinos at the College.
- Dwayne will be working on the 4Is. We will need by April to implement by August.

VI. **Corrections School/Career Fair**

- Cannot attend – it is the same day as the BL&L conference.

VII. **Hartford Foundation Grant (B & L Male support)**

- L. Primus sent document to members and asked if everyone saw it.
- J. McNamara will forward.
- Where do they thing to get funding? Did not look at the shortfall – student issues not coming as fast as they would.

Meeting Adjourned 12:50pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia Lindo