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CBCP Partnerships Update

Ben Amsden

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Hello everyone,

The following is a quick summer update on the various partnerships/relationships/outreach/projects (both formal and informal) that the Center for Business and Community Partnerships is developing to connect industry and community to our integrated clusters. Much of this is meant as FYI, but if you see anything interesting and have questions or would like to be involved please be in touch. The idea behind these updates is to let folks know what's going on and to give a sense of how the CBCP team (Jess D, Jess M, Rachele, Nina, Casey, and Ben) goes about cultivating university-wide partnerships through engagement, outreach, facilitation, and collective impact. There's plenty more where this came from, as this update does not include partnerships specific to high-impact learning experiences such as for-credit internships and community service.

These are listed in no particular order:

NH Future in Sight: (formerly NH Association for the Blind) approached the Alumni office with an interest in creating a cluster project focusing on expanding their outreach. Later this summer, the CBCP will be organizing an opportunity for any interested faculty to gather with their leadership and discuss specific possibilities for class projects, student work, or research.

Tarleton Castle Arts Hub: Annette Holba and I toured their facility in Bath and met with their ED in early June - he will be preparing a list of needs which we will distribute to interested faculty once the semester begins.

Granite State United Way: The CBCP prepared a proposal to create a conduit connecting students at Manchester West to PSU cluster capacity through STEM programming facilitated by GSUW and STEAM AHEAD. Meetings are currently underway this week with stakeholders with an agreement hopefully forthcoming this summer.

Ashland Economic Development Committee: This group is interested in including students in economic development projects throughout the town. A meeting is scheduled for next week for the purposes of exploring possibilities which will be distributed to interested faculty once things crystallize.

Canterbury Shaker Village: I toured the facility and met with their new ED who is interested in developing closer linkages to programs including Historic Preservation, Heritage Studies, Social Science, etc. We will be brainstorming a list of ideas which I'll distribute to interested faculty once folks are back on campus.

Bienvenue NH: The CBCP helps facilitate this project overseen by Kate Harrington. Filming of the french-language educational spots for front-line service providers at the Mt Washington Hotel and Chutters is scheduled for June 19th. Data gathering at trailheads (with NH Fish&Game and Dept of Parks) is underway. Workshops have been taking place with business owners throughout the spring and summer.

NH Coalition to End Homelessness: The CBCP has organized a meeting of stakeholders to discuss PSU participation in the New Hampshire Homeless Research Program, an initiative led by the NH Coalition to End Homelessness (a program of Families in Transition).

NH/Canada Trade Council Economic Development Event: Via Kate Harrington's Bienvenue program, the CBCP is helping the NH/Canada Trade Council raise funds and organize an economic development event scheduled for October.

AMC: The first sub-award (statement of work) under the newly-signed MOU is being created to formally articulate a project in which AMC staff receive professional development from PSU faculty.

Division of Economic Development/Rep. Kuster - Canadian manufacturing development support: The purpose of this ongoing project is to create an inventory of appropriate space for manufacturing development in the North Country. The project is being overseen by a coalition of North Country RDCs, and I am attending meetings with the group in case opportunities develop for PSU to play a role.

Littleton Chamber of Commerce /Rep. Masamilla - visitor brochure: The CBCP connected Rep. Masamilla to Pam Anneser's Design Lab who will be creating a tourism brochure for the towns of Lancaster and Bethlehem. Students are currently working on draft content.

USFS-Volunteer Management: As a result of last winter's Partner Fair, the WMNF met with the CBCP to discuss how the cluster model can help them with volunteer management. They are going to assemble a set of needs by the fall which we'll share with interested faculty.

USFS-Alternative Transportation: The WMNF is convening stakeholders to discuss alternative transportation in and around the WMNF. Several years ago the Center for Rural Partnerships coordinated a research effort in this area, and I will be attending the meeting in case opportunities arise for PSU to reengage this work.

ARSCAP: The project finale consisting of a panel presentation for partners (FEMA, DRED, F&G, NBRC) took place in late May. Next steps include analysis of data and community implementation led by the North Country Council.

Timber Bridge Research: In partnership with the North Country RC&D, and the USFS wood products lab, Rachele Lyons of ES&P will be leading a research project to determine timber structures (such as bridges) can be viable alternatives, thus supporting the timber and wood products economy.

Vernal Pool Project: Rachele and partners at the Mt. Village Charter School and Plymouth Elementary have created a cluster project (titled Local Action to Preserve Biodiversity) to help communities document and preserve vernal pools.

Assess Hunger on Campus: This is a cluster project brings together the CBCP, ES&P, Sodexo, and the Student Support Foundation to conduct research and outreach towards better understanding hunger on the PSU campus.

Food Recovery Network: This ongoing student-led partnership with Sodexo provides unserved food to area organizations, and will be resuming this fall.

Utility Choice Savings: Our first co-op agreement completed its first year and is moving to Phase Two (marketing, PR) which includes 3 more students (COBA, English, Comm) and wider impact.

Holderness Department of Public Works: Via Conservation Commission, the DPW is interested in culvert assessment work. We are hoping to locate a student to work with them once the school year begins.

Mountain Village Charter School: The CBCP will be facilitating a meeting with the MVCS Board and new Headmaster to discuss creation of an MOU that more formally articulates much of the work that PSU is already doing in support of the school.

Pemi Youth Center: The PYC Board and PSU leadership recently met to discuss a renewal/revisiting of our partnership in light of clusters and PSU's evolving relationship with the United Way. This process should be completed by mid-August.

Tech Transfer/Patent Application: In late May, the CBCP facilitated the application for a patent resulting from faculty disclosure of innovation.

IP Policy: The new policy was approved by USNH Legal and PSU leadership, and is currently under review by the Union negotiating team.

Other Policies (Conflict of Interest, Disclosure, Class Travel, Background Checks etc): These are on the "to-do" list. If anyone is interested in participating, please let Ben know.

Cluster Guide Partnership Group: The CBCP is part of a group of cluster guides tasked with establishing a baseline of existing partnerships and agreements, both formal and informal. The survey is currently underway.

Showcase of Excellence: This event will remain with a faculty steering committee (led by Mary Ann M. and Chris C.) but will now be handled by the newly-formed events office.

Community Ed: Summer programming (Mindflight, Camps) is staffed and scheduled. Numerous community workshops have been scheduled for Summer 2017. Look for advertising in local venues. Discussion is underway to ensure that future efforts to advertise CE programming are inclusive of other summer efforts on campus.

Industry Representation: Ben Amsden was recently appointed by Chancellor Leach to represent USNH on the NH Rural Affairs Commission. Ben also serves as the Chair of the North Country CEDS (Economic Development Strategy) Team, and is the PSU liaison to the Central NH Chamber of Commerce and the NH BIA. He is also a member of the Plymouth Rotary and the Food Solutions New England Strategy Team. Jess Morel is on the Board of the Central NH Chamber. Jess Dutille is a member of the Plymouth Regional Agency Council, the Central NH Health Partnership/Public Health Advisory Council, and several other boards and industry teams. Rachelle is a member of the NH Food Alliance and is a board member of Trout Unlimited.

Thanks for reading, and as always please feel free to share this around campus as you see fit.

Cheers,
Ben

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