

Marjorie Grant Whiting Endowment for the Indigenous Knowledge

Minutes from the December 2, 2011 Meeting

Advisory Committee

1. The sixth meeting of the MG Whiting Advisory Committee was held on Friday, December 2, 2011 from 12:30 pm to 2 pm in 313 Keller Building
2. **Attending:** Deanna Behring, Ladi Semali, Mike Jacobson, Khanjan Mehta, Leila Bradaschia, Adelina Hristova, Amy Paster, Clemente Abrokwa, Susan Faircloth, and Chris Palma. Audrey Marezki and Phil Wilson joined by phone.
3. **Agenda items:**
 - a. Welcome and introductions – Ladi Semali, MGW Co-chair and ICIK Co-Director
 - b. Endowments: What they are and how they work - Mark Sharer, Director of Development for the College of Agricultural Sciences and Mark Theiss, Director of Major Gifts
 - c. Re-thinking our mission and purpose - Leila Bradaschia, MGW Co-Convener
 - d. Goals for 2012 – Ladi Semali
4. **Main proceedings**
 - A. After Ladi Semali's welcoming remarks, introductions around the table followed.
 - B. Mark Sharer discussed main endowment principles and terms - stewardship, market and book values. He emphasized that there is no carry-over limit as long as the carry-over decision is communicated with the donors. Current value is ~\$116K. \$4800/ year. In Jan '12, we will have \$16-17K to use because of low spending in previous years.
 - C. Leila Bradaschia led the *Re-thinking our mission and purpose* discussion based on the MGW Endowment guidelines that had been distributed earlier
 - a. Video creation and interdisciplinary course preparation were identified as activities under the MGW 'b' function of promoting indigenous knowledge in the PSU research, teaching, and outreach.
 - b. The committee members were reminded of the advisory committee's structure and the requirement to have at least one member from PSU campuses other than the UP.
 - c. Also the relationship between ICIK and MGW endowment was clarified as a relationship between two independent but working together entities.

- D. **The rest of the meeting** was spent on identifying the Goals for 2012 and brainstorming. The main goals are as follow: To open the Debate about IK. To Increase IK visibility at PSU. To Advance the IK at PSU. In order to reach these goals, the committee is planning to address the following questions: What do we want to do? What are our strategies? What is the definition of IK that the committee is promoting? What do we call advancement of IK? What are the expected outcomes? How do we measure depth and breadth of the experiences?
- E. **Activities related to two of the advisory committee goals** - To open the Debate about IK. To Increase IK visibility at PSU.
- a. In the spring 2012, coordinate a series of events - one following the other;
 - i. university wide retreat
 - ii. invite speakers
 - iii. Big splashy event and follow up to promote the videos in the broader way with a speaker
- F. **Other ideas of Activities** and Outcomes that were shared:
- i. Partnership with other schools
 - ii. Course development – resident and outreach and continuous education rather than the WC
 - iii. Grad student support
 - iv. Research – capturing what IK is and capturing examples of IK; outside PSU and within outside communities; summer symposium and showcase of events; speaker series – to follow the CIED model
 - v. Partnerships – UPAC, Rock Ethics Institute, CIED, Cornell – co-sponsoring; library; and different centers – to “validate” the presence of IK in PSU;
- G. **Grant award** planning and logistics:
- i. Operational money - for marketing, printing
 - ii. Spring meeting to plan the grant awards
 - iii. Advisory committee to decide allocation parameters
 - iv. Identifying individuals
 - v. Process of soliciting research and project – 2 phases – first stage – website to place a call for proposals
 - vi. Self- identifying individuals
- H. **At the end**, details about the library were shared. There are two interns at the library who are in charge of cataloguing the materials into the system and maintaining the website; new interns will start Spring 2012 – one from College of Ed and the other from the CAS;

I. **The meeting adjourned** at 1:45 p.m. **Next Meeting:** Friday, January 27th.