Yavapai-Apache Nation - Open Forum

**RE: How Yavapai College can better service Yavapai-Apache Nation, Facilitated by Leona Wathogoma.** Meeting start delayed in honor of VVAC Chair, Chevalier. Meeting called to order at 9:10 a.m. by presiding Yavapai-Apache Nation Vice Chair, Darlene Rubio.

VVAC/YAN Johnson O’Malley coordinator Leona Wathogoma calls for Introductions by YAN Council, DGB VVAC.

Vice Chair Regner provides overview of Committee role. YAN Council Marquez notes absence of YAN community members at open forum, which she states is typical of inaugural meetings.

VVAC Vice Chair Regner calls for explanation of Johnson O’Malley and YAN Higher Education roles and responsibilities.

Leona Wathogoma identifies Verde Valley K-12 district roles in tutoring YAN students; currently 400+ YAN students enrolled K-12 throughout Verde Valley.

YAN Higher Education, Lisa Sandoval gives status report regarding YAN process of upgrading Learning Centers at Nation sites. Sandoval reports current enrollment of 22 YAN post-secondary at Yavapai College: 19 at Verde Valley Campus, 3 at Prescott Campus. YAN college students typically age 24+.

Linda Buchanan introduces V Executive Dean, James Perey, and DGB D2 member, Deb McCasland.

VVAC Janet Aniol questions why learning gap between HS graduation and typical YC enrollment at age 24+?
YAN Council Annette Mendez states life transitions, and young parents w/early childhood caregiving challenges often present barriers to young adults returning to college before children reach school age.

YAN Council David Kwail clarifies contribution of YAN funding to maintain public K-12 support services to YAN students throughout Verde Valley, e.g. MUHS.

VVAC Randy Garrison differentiates between VV Executive Dean’s Advisory Committee, and YC DGB Verde Valley Advisory Committee. Garrison further questions 5-year gap between traditional HS graduate, and post-secondary enrollment of YAN members.

VVAC Regner posits additional questions regarding skill sets required for YAN governance, casino employees, and/or entrepreneurial opportunities at YAN.

YAN Vice Chair Rubio speaks to diverse employment opportunities ranging from Health Care, Criminal Justice, Casino operations, Small Business Administration. Queries whether YC classes can materialize with < 9 students?

YAN Council Monica Marquez encourages YAN & YC to explore opportunities to utilize YAN Learning Centers at YAN sites in Middle Verde and/or Clarkdale.

YAN Higher Education coordinator Lisa Sandoval briefs participants on current recruiting and placement strategies. It is common for traditional YAN HS graduates to seek opportunity outside immediate locale, e.g. Scottsdale and/or Pima Community Colleges. YAN promotes YC regarding financial benefits, and proximity to home. Currently 124 YAN members exercising Higher Education benefits: 22 enrolled at YC, 19 at Verde Valley Campus, 3 at Prescott Campus. Current YAN enrollment down slightly from past 30 – 35 enrolled at YC. YAN hosts post-secondary filed trips to state universities, but not community colleges. Sandoval further discloses that typical YAN community college enrollees are 24+ years of age.

YAN Chairman, Thomas Beauty (joined meeting in progress) states that he attended YC classes at YC – Camp Verde extension site. Queries “why were these opportunities discontinued?” Can NAU/YC collaboration be extended to benefit YAN community? YC DGB D3 member, Al Filardo, explains role of DGB VVAC as “greater communication between Verde Valley communities and Yavapai College. The Committee is gathering information to present to DGB.

YAN David Kwail clarifies role of REDC/SBDC training for Casino and SBDC. Kwail queries “How are other communities faring? How does YAN differ from other community concerns? Kwail confirms $1 million plus investment of YAN in higher education funding.

YAN Higher Education Lisa Sandoval explains role of YAN vs. previous BIA funding in higher education. To qualify for YAN Revenue Allocation Plan, members are required to complete financial and cultural literacy before age 25 years.
VVAC Chair Chevalier comments on two-way barriers of integrating college opportunity into community planning.

DGB D3 Filardo provides summary comments regarding value and accessibility of YC for YAN. Queries, “How are we selling higher education to YAN members? Does parental engagement override student distractions? AZ is rated Top 5 of 2015 Worst Schools.

YAN Lisa Sandoval invites YC to explore and utilize YAN facilities.

VVC Executive Dean James Perey speaks to possibility of leveraged ITV instructional delivery, citing recent collaboration between YC and Verde Valley Archaeology Center to establish classroom with ITV access. Perey states current accessibility of Fast-Track Management and additional YC course offerings relevant to YAN Tribal and Casino employment, through Joy D'Angelo and Alexandria Wright (REDC).

YAN & DGB/VVAC commit to further meetings and exploration of YAN liaison appointed to YC.

10:20 a.m. Open Forum adjournment; VVAC recesses to reconvene at YAN Conference Room in five minutes.

VVAC Meeting Call to Order
Meeting called to order at 10:25 a.m. with VVAC Chair Paul Chevalier presiding; Bill Regner, Janet Aniol, Randy Garrison, Carolyn Fisher, Amber Marchant-Lee, and Leona Wathogoma present. Also present: YC DGB: Filardo (D3) & McCasland (D2); YC staff: Buchanan.

Approval of Meeting Minutes
Dec 4, 2014 – Motion by Carolyn Fisher/2nd by Randy Garrison, unanimously approved as amended January 21, 2015 Motion by Carolyn Fisher/2nd by Randy Garrison, unanimously approved as presented.

Member Updates
Committee member reports on information/activities
- January 27th Conference Call with DGB Chair McCarver (defer discussion of Operating Guidelines per Chair Chevalier)
- Open Call/Public Input: Option for specific topical input to one and all; w/ 3 minute limit; Chair may call for audience participation on specific topic; no Call to Public for items not on agenda
- Other related Updates; Al Filardo made report to DGB Jan 13: is 2x month too frequent for VVAC meetings? How will VVAC report to DGB during regularly scheduled future meetings? - Vice Chair Regner introduces concept of 5-minute monthly EDAC report at VVAC meetings (representation to be determined by Dean’s advisory committee)

Operating Guidelines
VVAC Chair Chevalier explained his cancellation of VVAC Jan 7 meeting to get clarification about changes that were made in the guidelines approved by the committee; specifically termination of member(s) for non-attendance, removal of officers by majority vote of a quorum and/or change to Operating Guidelines by majority vote of a quorum. After discussion with legal counsel and the Chair of the District Governing Board his concerns were satisfied and the guidelines were amended to
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delete language about termination of members for non-attendance and to increase the vote required to removed officers or change Operating Guidelines to a majority of the entire Committee.

VVAC approves DGB and/or YC Counsel suggestions as presented by Chari Chevalier, motioned by Carolyn Fisher; 2nd by Randy Garrison, with unanimous consent, as follows:

3. Committee Meetings
   d. Each action item shall require a motion, and all motions shall require seconding. All motions shall be carried by a majority of the members who vote, except that motions to remove and officer or to amend Operating Guidelines require a majority vote of the full Committee.

7. Officers
   f. Any elected officer may be removed by majority vote of the entire Committee as any regular meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose, when in its sole judgment, the best interests of the Committee would be served by such a Committee action.

9. Open Meeting Law
   All Committee members shall act in accordance with the Arizona Open Meeting Law – A.R.S. 38-431 through 38-431.09

10. Revision of Operating Guidelines
    These operating procedures and any changes thereto must be approved by a majority vote of the entire Committee. Revisions proposed by the Committee shall not be effective until and unless they are approved by the Yavapai college District Governing Board at a public meeting.

Ownership Linkage
    VVAC Strategy seeking and reporting community input on higher education, economic, and cultural needs of the Verde Valley

    Chevalier: How does the Committee move from suggestions to recommendations and action? What is 2nd phase: addressing barriers? Phase 3: How does VVAC prioritize and accomplish desired actions? Creation of sub-committees: e.g. school superintendents; YAN.
    Aniol: Beaver Creek PreK-8 disperses to regional high schools, 50% transient rate in community, families are mobile, attracted due to low-income housing, but distance creates transportation challenges; favors cultivating parent-relationships. VVAC needs standardized list to query community about needs.
    Filardo: w/in any set of problems, highest needs must be prioritized! Access, quality, other? Garrison: expresses concern about creating sub-committees which take attention away from higher function of VVAC.
    Regner: Challenge has been given to create game plan, is more time needed for inner-Committee dialog? Are presentations needed every meeting? Frustration about agenda creation, appropriate channels for securing presentations. Desires “Me time” structured into Committee meetings.
    Chevalier: How does Committee avoid amateur solutions based on misidentifying barriers? Wathogoma: YAN including Lisa Sandoval/Ginny Hamilton to address 6-reservation input, return to VVAC.
    Chevalier: Will Amber convene Superintendents to provide specific recommendations? Filardo: Ask DGB for time-framed response.
    Regner: are DGB reps carrying message to DGB?
    Garrison: recommends 1 speaker per month, 2nd meeting focuses discussion, favors moving information forward to DGB March 3 and periodically thereafter?
Regner: recommends 1-hour for presentation, 15 minutes conduct of business; 45-minute Committee discussion.
Fisher: What is a Learning Center? How does a college Learning Center function in community? Fisher will tour YC Verde Learning Center (set date/time/location w/Buchanan).
Chevalier: envisions very long process of information gathering, report could be more than 1 year out. Aniol requests one meeting date other than Wednesday?

Review Previous Meetings
- **Superintendents Panel:**
  Garrison: schools are desperate to create relationship with College, give community input to DGB in focused, condensed manner. Help DGB understand needs of community. School districts are willing to make facilities available. (Al Filardo departs at noon.)
  Regner: asks Committee to read (in near future) his synopsis of Superintendents panel.

- **Yavapai-Apache Nation Forum:**
  Aniol: impressed by YAN programming and planning/forward thinking.
  Garrison: Superintendents and YAN share pipeline concerns from HS to PS. YAN is microcosm.
  Chevalier: How does College “sell education product” to community?
  Fisher: showcase success stories, such as tribal leadership.
  Marchant-Lee: CVUSD FAFSA night recently raised exposure of YC.
  Regner: Reads (his) 4-dominant themes from Superintendents meeting. Access is most critical. YC Prescott-central education delivery model may not best serve Verde Valley communities.
  Aniol: favors decentralized delivery of services, especially re: Internet and technology barriers.

Chairman Chevalier requests reports to VVAC at March 4 meeting: Wathogoma w/f YAN; Marchant-Lee w/f Superintendents

Future Meeting Schedule
- Feb 18 8 a.m. Verde Valley Campus w/YC Career/Technology Education
- Mar 3 1 p.m. Sedona Center w/Report to District Governing Board
- Mar 4 8 a.m. Verde Valley Campus w/OLLI
- Mar 18 8 a.m. Verde Valley Campus w/YC Foundation
- April 1 8 a.m. YC Regional Economic Development Center/SBDC
- April 15 8 a.m. TBD
- May 6 8 a.m. TBD
- May 21 8 a.m. **TH exception for VVMC; Committee consents**
- Other, including possible every 4th meeting in Sedona; alternate day? 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. if meeting space available on campus

Adjourn
  **Motion to adjourn by Randy Garrison/2nd by Carolyn Fisher; carries unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM.