

**Notes on the Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, Noon meeting  
of the SSU Campus Working Group on the  
Health Care Crisis in Sonoma County  
in Salazar seminar room 1061**

Meeting date and time formula for the new academic year: Note monthly meetings of the campus working group will be the first Tuesday at noon of each month SSU is fully in session–November 4<sup>th</sup> and December 2<sup>nd</sup> monthly working group meetings will also be in Salazar 1061.

12-12:05 – Informal hellos – The working group was ready to go on the dot of 12:05.

12:05-12:20 – Each of the 15 participants gave a brief self-introduction, including their role on campus. Participants questioned whether Crisis in the group’s title was the best term. They offered Dilemma or Nightmare. Other terms come to mind. Some noted that this is a better monthly meeting time. (Last year, the working group met one Saturday morning per month.)

Those present included:

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12:20-12:25 – Very quick review of previously considered main priorities for the new academic year – website, online library, broadening academic studies, monthly campus work group meeting, research, system design, coalition-building, and others.

12:25-12:35 – Quick review of new university funding and planned immediate foundation fund-raising activities

For the new academic year so far, the university has agreed to fund the Initiative’s webmaster’s time for the academic year, development of the online library on the website (to become a campus and community resource in fighting the crisis), and four academic units of released time as a base for Dr. Skip Robinson to act as Initiative facilitator for this academic year, while seeking further funding. The Initiative is preparing to go to several foundations within the next few weeks to seek primarily research

and conference funds to study such key issues within the crisis as the need for better utilization trend analysis, improving prevention strategies, prescription drug potential deep discount scenarios, best current practices in humane cost-containment strategies, strategies for inclusion for access to care of presently excluded Sonoma County residents, overall plan and system design strategies, including IT.

(Potential: Reports at a spring conference on findings in such areas could assist multi-stakeholder dialogue. Potential partnerships could develop system refinements and generate more up-to-date health care among the health plans which are more likely to slow health care cost increases and dampen inflation trajectories.)

12:35-12:50 – Open discussion

Notes on some comments made:  There should be an economic model made within the next few years for the County of Sonoma, with implications for health care  The meeting included chairs of five SSU departments (Anthropology, Biology, Math, Nursing, and Psychology), and the director of academic planning for the School of Science and Technology. Faculty from several other departments and programs (Education, Extended Education Conflict Resolution Program, EMT, Humanities, Psychology) and student reps combined to make an interesting health care educational network emerging. (Where could interdisciplinary dialogue lead among health care-related Departments and programs lead?)  With the website funded for the academic year, other committed funds can begin serious development of Initiative's website online library.  A late April 2004 research reporting conference is beginning planning now by securing the Cooperage for the weekend around April 24<sup>th</sup>.  Initiative narrative and budget are nearing readiness to go to several foundations.  Sonoma County Alliance cooperation is to be sought through increased contact, dialogue, meetings. The University Initiative and the Alliance working together provide dialogue across a wider cross-section of Sonoma County stakeholders and interests.  Information Technology may become a key aspect of this project.  With introductions and updates shared at the October meeting (touched on in these notes), the November working group meeting can focus on exploring priorities for this academic year (academic, research, meetings, outreach) – along with a report of steps forward in foundation-approaching activities.

12:50 – The working group adjourned until November's meeting. Informal discussion continued for a few minutes.