World Affairs Conference  
Executive Planning Council Meeting  
Thursday, October 24, 2013  
4:00 PM, Tru Café

MINUTES

Present: Bonnie Payne, David Wiebe, Lorma Wiebe, Matt Mims, Megan Hartman, Maria Gutierrez, Toni Hill

Absent: Will Aviles, Megan Forgey, Pooja Shrestha, Stephen Amundson, Barbara Amundson

I. Future Conference Dates
   a. 2014 Conference has been scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, September 29-30.
   b. 2015 Conference can be held Monday and Tuesday, September 28-29, or Tuesday and Wednesday, September 29-30, 2015. No real strong feeling amongst committee as to whether Monday/Tuesday or Tuesday/Wednesday better.

II. Review of 2013 Conference Technology and Power: The Global Outcomes of New Media
   a. Keynote
      i. Payne requested a few sentences regarding Harry Wu’s keynote for the next addition of the international newsletter. In the discussion that followed, it was the consensus of the committee members in attendance that the address was quite vague as it relates to the conference theme and title of the talk (U.S. Companies Involvement in Internet Repression in China). On the other hand, his emphasis on human rights issues that many Americans are not even aware of most certainly proves that there is a lack of freedom of information in China. The room was silent and by all appearances the audience was captivated by the candid sharing of his experience in prison and the ongoing abuses in China. He did talk some about specific U.S. companies and how they acquiesced to the will of the Chinese government for the sake of profit.
   b. Other things to improve
      i. We need to provide reliable laptop computers in each presentation room for the speakers. There were too many issues with individual computers used, or expectations by speakers that we were going to provide them.
      ii. One moderator did not show up.
      iii. Several people who indicated they would attend luncheon did not show up.
      iv. Maria talked to Union staff to obtain email addresses for student organizations. However, nearly all email addresses were incorrect so she was unable to make contact with organizations to arrange to speak briefly about the conference at their organization meetings.
      v. We were charged $20 every time a driver turned in a vehicle without recording mileage noted in logbook. Need to better instruct drivers in future.
   c. Kudos
      i. Megan H. was on flight with James Chisenga following the conference and overheard him talking about the wonderful experience he had in Kearney and his hope to be able to return to future conferences.
      ii. Toni received a very nice email from Dr. Siegle saying how impressed he was with the conference and his experience here.
      iii. Megan H. did the email campaign to faculty teaching classes relevant to conference theme (finding this information on Blackboard), with the help of some of Carol’s
students. Received a lot of positive feedback from faculty who appreciated receiving the email.

III. 2014 Conference
a. 2014 is 50th Anniversary of the conference
   i. Theme should be historically relevant. What was happening in 1964? Or what theme could tie the last 50 years together? Potential theme could be 50 years of Globalization. How countries have changed in 50 years, i.e. key developments.
   ii. Can we find out theme from 1964 Conference? Payne will look in historical document Bob Young created.
   iii. We need to recognize Donna Smith with an award.

IV. Other
a. Payne handed out the results of the survey during the 2013 conference, as well as the October 24, 2013 Kearney Hub article about the Foundation dollars that will be going to the UNK campus as a result of the record year for fundraising.

James E. Smith Midwest Conference on World Affairs
Technology and Power: The Global Outcomes of New Media
September 24-25, 2013

Survey Comments

1. The topic of this event is relevant and of interest to me. Explain:
   • Nepal project was a powerful achievement
   • Modern technology interests me and I enjoy learning new things about it
   • I am involved with Himanchal/Mahabir
   • My capstone course is about social media
   • Technology is relevant in my life
   • I do not know about the topic and am curious to hear and learn more
   • Should be relevant to anyone in today’s society
   • Many comments related to persons attending Nepal Wireless because of how interesting it sounded.
   • Community member’s business connected to international work & technology
   • Connections growing around the world should be relevant to everyone
   • How are technology advancements not relevant? Globalization is such an overarching and powerful topic.
   • The expansion of communication is important for world trade and diplomacy
   • I am not a huge technology fanatic but the session I attended (Nepal Wireless) was interesting because of what the speaker accomplished from scratch.
   • We should know about the world we live in
   • In my generation social media has experienced such rapid growth
   • I am interested in the social development of Africa, but it is not related to my field of study.
   • Minoring in Public Health and enrolled in Global Health
   • Social media does affect international affairs.
   • Africa was a topic of study in one of my classes.
• Technology is the new global lingua franca.
• Technology has both positive and negative effects on the world
• I like technology but not international stuff.
• Related to my area of research
• I have a little knowledge about Nepal
• I am interested in learning more about world cultures, including increases in technology and globalization.
• I want to do something similar for my country (as Dr. Pun did for his).
• It is interesting to hear what is happening around the world.
• I want to see how “small” the world has gotten through technology.
• I felt we are more connected than what the TED talk suggested.
• Even though there are many other ideas than mine on the internet, I will only pay interest to the people with my same views.
• TED Talk was interesting because it explains how technology has changed the world’s perspective.
• Surveillance and Cyber Security was very informative.
• The Political Transitions in Africa presentation was not relevant to my class, but important for me to be aware of world issues.
• The Political Transitions (Siegle) talk was an interesting lecture.
• As a teacher for both college and high school students, I feel this conference is highly relevant because we are continually trying to help our students effectively and appropriately use technology to connect to the world beyond Kearney. It is also helpful to teaching kids about how to use skills they have or can develop to make the world a better place.
• I live with constant web connection, so to me, this is relevant.
• Everybody should take an interest in technology and globalization because that is how the economy is going nowadays.
• Never thought about it before, but the New Media and Globalization session made learning about it really enjoyable.
• As an international student, globalization is relevant and interesting.
• I want to learn strategies to open up my twitter world.
• The world needs to get more connected.
• Topic was helpful to me studying Sociology
• Politics
• Social Media protection
• I’m a business major not an English major, but it was good to hear more about the English language.
• The Rural Development session was interesting to me because I want to be a small business manager in a small community.
• Ironically there were a number of tech issues during the conference. Next year there should be more staff/volunteers on hand to deal with these issues as they arise.
• Technology can have both positive and negative impact on the world, hence everyone needs to understand how it is being used.
• I am a poli sci student, so I enjoyed learning about the Chinese government.
• How Facebook Changed the World – I had a general idea but didn’t know how bad this situation was. It was interesting to learn about it.
• Technology and social media have great potential to affect the world positively or negatively and it is important to explore the effects of it.
• How Facebook Changed the World – showed how powerful and important technology is.
• I was interested in How Facebook Changed the World because it is becoming more and more popular in Asia.
• I have always been interested in political science and find it amazing to see what countries can accomplish.
• Siegle session was relevant to my global health class x 4
• The development of technology helps many people, especially in Africa.
• Interesting to hear more on public health in Africa and what democracies in Africa are doing about it.
• Interesting to know more about the development of the African countries.
• Social media has a huge effect on us today, especially with the internet in other countries.
• I am very interested in the role social media plays in world affairs in connection with increasing globalization.
• The Role of Social Media in International Affairs was not currently relevant to my life but will be in the future. This was an interesting presentation.
• Technology has made a huge impact on our lives and I would like to see all the ways it impacts us in depth.
• As a child of the technological revolution, social media has developed into a prime source of communication and information regarding global affairs, and I want to learn more about this subject.
• I was very interested in the technology advances in Africa.
• We all need to understand the scope of technology in media. Also, I’m doing research on Africa
• I would like to join a world health group
• This program helped me understand the communication between rural and urban students, i.e. communication skills, self-esteem, language use, etc.
• It was interesting to learn the way schools operate in Bangladesh.
• How Facebook Changed the World made me feel that even though the internet tends to be given a bad image, it can be a positive thing.

2. Topics of interest to me for future events:
• Medical field x 2.
• Sports x 2
• Social media
• Worldwide technology advancement, especially 3rd world places, i.e. medicine, computer, vehicle, military
• Technology, internet, business
• Peace and war, financial advantages/disadvantages, refugees, etc.
• Science x 3
• International culture
• Music: A World Relationship
• Human Trafficking x 3
• Advances in Agriculture, Technology, Industry shifts
• Topics on education systems around the world x 4
• How diplomacy is waged in various parts of the world
• Sustainability
• World Relations
• Infectious Disease
• Areas of American Military interest
• Social Work and International Relations
• World food diversity
• Social Media and government control.
• Technology/media/marketing/advertising
• Motivational speaker about bringing a new mindset to less developed countries.
• Global trends
• Global health initiatives x 3
• Movements for gender-equity x 2
• Anything web and global oriented.
• Networking
• Narrowing the gap between Asian and American students
• Religion and how it affects government opinions
• How sports connect the world
• How music connects people around the world x 2
• Social Media and government issues
• Cultural differences or cultural interactions
• Children
• Civil Society and Technology
• Human Rights
• Economic Development in developing countries
• Use of technology in education systems
• Foreign policy of the U.S.
• World health disparities
• Hacking – the compromised network
• Corruption in Latin American countries
• Medicine in sports
• Peace Corps
• Recycling
• Immigration policies
• Issues in developing countries.
• Government
• Art and its influence in the world
• Social Media in conflict and war zones
• World Religions x 2
• World trade networks
• Advances in poor countries
• Technology and communications with different countries
• Public health
• Religious persecution
• Domestic violence and its effects, rules and cases
• Living standards
• World affairs more specific to majors/careers.
• Family, marriage relationships in various cultures
• Economics
• The effect of politics on everything.
• School disciplinary actions
# World Affairs Conference Survey

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<th>Total Attendance</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Surveys Received</td>
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<td>student</td>
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<tr>
<td>staff</td>
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<td>faculty</td>
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<tr>
<td>community member</td>
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<tr>
<td>optional no extra credit</td>
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<td>optional w/extra credit</td>
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<td>35-44</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
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<th>What is your preference regarding duration?</th>
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<tr>
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<td>2 days, multi session</td>
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