29TH ANNUAL CURRICULUM PLANNING RETREAT

“SITUATING LEARNING COMMUNITIES IN PLACE”

DUMAS BAY CENTRE — FEDERAL WAY, WASHINGTON
APRIL 28-29, 2016

AGENDA

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

9:00–10:00 a.m.  Check in
WLCC Steering Committee meeting

10:00–11:00 a.m.  Opening Session: Overview and Introduction
This session opens with brief introductions to the retreat structure as well as to the steering committee members as facilitators and support people. This will be followed by small group break-out discussions to meet colleagues from different institutions to discuss these two central questions: Why do we do this work with integrative learning and learning communities? What are we here to work on this time?
Facilitated by Jane Harradine and Karen Weathermon

11:15 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  Option A: Nuts and Bolts of Integrative Assignments: How to Get Started
Integrative assignments—assignments that ask students to draw from multiple areas of knowledge and experience to create new learning—are the heart of learning communities. This session is intended to introduce a simple but powerful method for designing integrative assignments. Participants will begin by reflecting on the knowledge and skills they want students to develop, and then explore ways to combine their desired learning objectives with those of their teaching partner(s) through carefully designed integrative projects or experiences.
Facilitated by Emily Lardner

11:15 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  Option B: Planning time for teams; consultations with resource faculty

12:30–1:30 p.m.  Lunch
Participants are encouraged to continue the conversations of the opening session as you talk with colleagues.

1:30–2:45 p.m.  Option A: Planning time for teams; consultations with resource faculty as requested

Option B: Round Table of Best Practices
For those not attending with a team or those desiring more information on how to get started with a learning community, this will be an informal opportunity to talk about best practices with members of the WLCC Steering Committee.
3:00–4:15 p.m.  **Option A: An Activity on Place-Conscious Learning**  
This short workshop, part treasure-hunt and part curriculum-invention, will offer an opportunity for a stretch outside, and a chance to discover creative possibilities for learning in totally local places.  
*Facilitated by Jean MacGregor, Washington Center*

**Option B: Planning time for teams; consultations with resource faculty**

4:15–5:00 p.m.  **Team planning time/free time; WLCC Steering Committee**  
The WLCC Steering Committee welcomes new members to help plan future events and activities.

5:00–6:00 p.m.  **Dinner**

7:00–8:30 p.m.  **Option A: Seminar Discussion of “Why Place Matters” by David Greenwood**  
Join in a discussion of this article by David Greenwood (a major theorist of both critical pedagogy and place-based learning) and how it might stimulate our thinking about engaging students with issues of diversity, justice, and a sustainable future  
*Facilitated by Jean MacGregor, Washington Center*

**Option B: Team planning time**

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**FRIDAY, APRIL 29**

8:00–9:00 a.m.  **Breakfast**

9:00–10:15 a.m.  **Option A: “Building Community through Urban Agriculture and Social Justice”**  
This session will feature a panel of students from a new but growing learning community at Highline College that focuses on urban agriculture and food security in South King County. Built around a collaboration of science, business, social science, ABE/ESL, and health, this learning community approaches issues around social justice and food security through place-based inquiry and hands on practical applications. The panel of students will speak about their experiences navigating this integrative task, about the work they produced, and how working in the campus garden connected them to the larger campus community.  
*Facilitated by Kevin Stanly (Economics) with Raegan Copeland (Business), and student panel from Highline College*

**Option B: Team planning time; consultations with resource faculty**

10:15–11:00 a.m.  **Break/Check out of rooms**

11:00 a.m.–Noon  **Closing Session: Reporting out on work accomplished**  
*Facilitated by WLCC Steering Committee members*

Noon–1:00 p.m.  **Lunch**

1:00–3:00 p.m.  **Optional: Team work time**