



April 1, 2011

Dear Community:

Contemplation for the week:

Humor is perhaps a sense of intellectual perspective: an awareness that some things are really important, others not; and that the two kinds are most oddly jumbled in everyday affairs. ~Christopher Morley

Humor is good for the soul and since today is what some call April Fool's Day (have you seen the latest "innovation" at www.gmail.com?), I thought I might reflect on the importance of humor in the life. We recognize that Naropa's founder valued humor, but we see even today that the medical world is embracing the importance of humor. Voltaire said, "*The art of medicine consists of keeping the patient amused while nature heals the disease.*"

Humor often does help us gain perspective, remind us of the farce in many of our everyday events and it can keep us humble and focused. How are you using humor? Are you finding the pleasure of daily life? I encourage each member of the community to find some humorous way to express encouragement and care to the people around us.

Appreciations

We recently had someone write to say, "I would like to nominate Chris Miguel Nathan, our TCP administrative coordinator. Not only does he work magic every single day but he does it with such good intention. He is always kind, patient and truly a bright light for us over in Paramita!"

Remember, if you want to nominate someone for an appreciation, just respond to this e mail.

Alcohol and Other Drugs Task Force

I would like to announce the formation of a new group at Naropa called the Alcohol and Other Drugs Task Force, which will be chaired by Grazia DiGiorgio. Their charge is as follows:

The Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Task Force, consisting of students, faculty and staff, will provide guidance, oversight and balance on issues related to alcohol and other drug use and abuse. This committee will meet regularly to discuss alcohol and drug use on campus, evaluate current programming efforts, and make recommendations concerning policy and outreach strategies.

It is anticipated that the committee will meet weekly between now and the end of the fall semester, providing me with bi-monthly updates and a final report with recommendations on or before December 10, 2011. I also expect this committee to meet monthly to monitor the effectiveness of changes that result from your recommendations.

One of the university goals is to change a culture that seems to encourage alcohol and other drug abuse resulting in violation of university policies and state and federal alcohol and substance abuse laws. Through this committee's work, the university has an opportunity to establish a model program for universities and colleges across the nation by integrating our alcohol and drug abuse programs with other efforts aimed at enhancing Health and Wellness.

As members of this committee, your specific charge is to:

A. ESTABLISH A BASELINE. Review recent history of Naropa judicial cases related to violations of the university prohibited code of conduct, including the use of alcohol by minors; gather factual data regarding alcohol consumption and drug use practices among our students on and off campus; and to analyze current judicial sanctions related to their effectiveness for recidivism.

B. DETERMINE EXTENT OF OUR CHALLENGE. Information developed under A above should help you accomplish B. How do we compare to society at large? Peer universities? How does our legacy affect the university efforts in addressing alcohol/drug use/abuse in moving forward?

C. SUGGEST POLICIES, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES. This committee should suggest consequences for violations of university rules, local and state laws; and to suggest educational and alternative sanctions for alcohol-related misconduct that are mindful of Naropa's contemplative education.

Overall, the charge of this committee is to:

- To confront attitudes on campus that promote or condone the abuse of alcohol or other drugs;

- To create a safety net of educated persons; students, faculty, and administrators who are able to respond to alcohol/drug issues;
- To mobilize resources within the University and the local community; and,
- To review regularly University policies and procedures to ensure they are kept constant and remain effective.
- Monitor and track changes in your alcohol and drug abuse measures and take appropriate action to ensure adequate progress toward established goals

COMMITTEE MEMBERS;

Grazia DiGiorgio , Chair
 Bob Cillo
 Lisa Constantino
 Avani Dilger
 Steve Jewell
 Nataraja Kallio
 Mark Oberg
 Derek Pyle
 Lee Worley

Interviews for Senior Vice President for Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer

Hopefully, you have received a letter from Todd Kilburn, Chief Administrative Officer on behalf of the Search Committee regarding interviews.

Beginning next week, three candidates will be visiting campus and considered for the position of Senior Vice President for Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer. All members of the community are welcome to attend an open session and invited to share feedback. Resumes for the candidate will be available for review at that meeting, which will open with each candidate sharing a brief presentation entitled, “Managing Finances in Turbulent Times.”

The three meetings times and candidates are:

- Gregory Redlin Tuesday, April 5 3:30-5:00 pm
- David McConnell Thursday, April 7 3:30-5:00 pm
- Richard Metz Monday, April 18 9:30-11:00 am

All meetings will be held in the Administrative Conference Room.

While there will be forms available for feedback, if anyone would like to share other information, they may do so to Phil Stanley or Todd Kilburn as co-chairs of the search committee.

Coffee with the President

This will serve as a reminder that *Coffee with the President* will be held next Friday at 8:00 am in the Administrative Conference Room. We will be discussing the topic “What are our Core Values?” Please feel free to come by and join us.

Thank you all for making the life of Naropa a delight!

Go Naropa!

In the spirit of service,

Stuart C. Lord, President

Share your thoughts: Presidentlord@naropa.edu