LEARNING COMMUNITIES SUMMIT
MARCH 7-8, 2002

Thursday, March 7   **The Senate Chambers of the Wyoming Union**

3:30-3:45 Welcome reception

3:45-4:00 Welcome and Introduction
      Tom Buchanan, Vice President for Academic Affairs

4:00-5:00 Keynote address: *Learning Communities: Yes, It Can Work Here*
      Judy Patton, Director of University Studies at Portland State University
- In 1994, PSU adopted a new and innovative approach to general education through their University Studies Program. This nationally recognized program seeks to provide students with a coherent and cohesive program of integrated learning experiences. This program features thematically linked, interdisciplinary seminars, clusters, and a multidisciplinary capstone experience.

5:00-5:15 *UW's Commitment to Learning Communities*
      Rollin Abernethy, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

Friday, March 8   **Medicine Bow Room of the Outreach School**

8:30-8:50 Get acquainted and continental breakfast

8:50-9:00 Welcome—Rollin Abernethy
9:00-9:05 Introduction—Beth McCuskey, Director of Residence Life and Dining Services

9:05-10:00 *The Learning Community Movement at Iowa State University*
      Howard Shapiro, Vice President for Undergraduate Programs at Iowa State University
      Kurt Earnest, Residence Life Coordinator at Iowa State University
- Join our land-grant colleagues as they describe their experiences in creating and maintaining a thriving, well-established, and highly successful learning community program. Evaluation shows consistently higher success rates for students in learning communities. They were more likely to earn higher grades, show greater understanding, and were more successful at reaching their academic goals. LC students were more engaged in academic and social aspects of university life and were more satisfied with their university experiences.

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15-11:15 *Learning from Each Other: Learning Communities at UW*
      Duncan Harris, Director, Honor's Program and High School Institute
      Sally Steadman, Engineering Power Groups
      Kelly Belanger, Project Synergy
      Nancy Smueles, FIGs
      Norma Wilkerson, FIGs
      Michael Day, Folk School
- Join your UW colleagues as they share their learning community experiences on campus.

11:15-12:00 Concurrent sessions: *The Learning Community Concept at Work*
- These concurrent sessions feature collaborative partners of various combinations who will discuss a particular aspect of forming learning communities.

Learning, Community, and Scholarship   **Medicine Bow Room**
Judy Patton
Beth McCuskey
- What do these three topics have in common? Join us as we discuss the foundation and application of learning community theory and background.

Partners in Learning: Student Affairs – Academic Affairs Connection   **Meadowlark Room**
Kurt Earnest
Rollin Abernethy
- Learn how truly powerful and vital the academic affairs/student affairs partnership is and how to make the most of it.

Getting Started: How to Build a Learning Community   **Grand Teton Room**
Howard Shapiro
Lisa Shipley, FIG Coordinator
- Participants will explore the issues and logistics to consider when developing a learning community.

12:00-12:30 Lunch   **Medicine Bow Room**

12:30-1:30 Recap and Discussion
- In this lively and informal venue, we'll recap our morning's experiences, discuss strategies, and ask and answer questions.

1:30-2:30 Lessons from the Learners
Students' Experiences with Learning Communities at UW – An Integrative Dialog
Kathy Evertz, Director, University Studies First Year Program, Panel Coordinator
Ashley Maloney, junior in Elementary Education, Panel Moderator

Jarel Bakke – FIGs	Sherrie Clark – Project Synergy
Catlin Fairfield – Project Synergy	Nichole Kennedy – FIGs
Coyle Neal – Honors Program	Emilene Ostlind – Honors Program
Jason Urasky – Power Groups	Dana Vercimak – Folk School

2:30-2:45 Break

2:45-3:45 Workshop: *Building Learning Communities at UW: A Hands-On Experience*
- Work together to develop plans for UW's newest group of learning communities

3:45-4:30 Read Out: Reflections on the Summit

4:30-4:45 *Where Do We Go From Here?*
Invited consultants and UW Learning Communities Development Team