



SEMY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Spring 2002

March 26-27 Seattle University-Student Leadership Program (SLP) Regional Conference in partnership with schools in Puget Sound Region

April 19-20 Grant/Adams Region Student Leadership Program Regional Conference at Moses Lake High School

May 3 Western Washington University Student Leadership Program Conference in partnership with Skagit/Whatcom area schools

Summer 2002

Student Leadership Program (SLP) Conferences at Columbia Basin College, Pasco and Billings, Montana

Spring and summer PASS

Training workshops scheduled on request. Call SEMY (888)727-7123

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NEW PASS COURSES—RELEASED

The PASS Program will have released **TEN** new semester courses this school year:

- * Washington State History in bilingual format
- * English I A and B
- * English II A and B
- * English III A and B
- * English IV A and B
- * Health and Fitness

Feedback on these newly aligned courses has been positive. Benchmarked to the Essential Academic Learning Requirements, the courses are proving to be challenging and appropriate.

Special points of interest:

- *A recent survey of PASS Administrators has indicated strong interest in development of at least four PASS elective courses in 2003-04, pending fund availability.*
- *Survey results also indicate some interest in curriculum translated into Spanish.*
- *Thank you to all who responded to our survey!*

Courses for early fall release:

- * **Four** Sciences:
 - Integrated Physics
 - Integrated Earth Science
 - Integrated Chemistry
 - Integrated Life Science
- * Algebra I A and B
- * U.S. History A and B
- * Salud (Spanish version of Health course)

New courses to be released by May 2003:

- * Algebra II A and B
- * Geometry A and B
- * Economics
- * World History
- * Geography
- * Pre-GED Courses
- * Creative Writing

SEMY Website
WWW.SEMY.ORG
SEMY Email
semy@semy.org



Over 80 Students Attend State Leadership Conference

A reduction in the dropout rate occurs when students are engaged, feel ownership in their schools, and are recognized for their contributions. The Student Leader-

ship Program (SLP) conferences have been proven to motivate students; 80% of state conference students graduate, as compared to a 50% migrant student graduation rate

nationwide. To learn more about replicating the leadership program, or for tips and support on integrating migrant student leadership into existing programs, call SEMY.



Students working together at State Student Leadership Program conference held February 23-March 3. Eighty-four students attended.

Two Students Nominated For State Advisory Committee

Each year, eight student candidates at the annual Student Leadership Program state conference vie for an opportunity to represent student views at the state level. From this pool of eight candidates, two students are nominated by their peers to be recommended to serve on the Migrant Education Program State Advisory Committee (SAC) for the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. Dr. Terry Bergeson, State Superintendent, selects one of the student nominees to serve on the SAC for two years, representing migrant student perspectives.

Congratulations to all eight candidates who prepared and delivered outstanding nomination speeches during the conference. On March 3, 2002, **Nelson Robles** of Moses Lake High School and **Guadalupe Hernandez** of Eastmont High School, were nominated. Good luck, Nelson and Guadalupe, on your nomination and in your remaining years of high school. Shoot for the stars!

Thanks to Valerie Newell in **Eastmont** and Nelly McLauchlan in **Moses Lake** who recommended the nominees to attend the state Student Leadership Program conference.



Role Models Needed and Student Support Available

If you or anyone you know is acquainted with individuals who are sensitive to and/or have a familiarity with the migrant lifestyle, AND have succeeded in their careers, please complete the role model form located on the SEMY website. The intent is to share stories with migrant students through the website www.semy.org and to demonstrate the spirit:

"If I can do it, so can you!"

Filling out the form is easy...and a good thing to do. The time

commitment is minimal—whatever the role model chooses it to be. Let's share our stories with our students! Mentoring really works! So, please... encourage individuals to complete a role model form and mail to SEMY.

Encourage your migrant students to visit this website to learn of scholarships, career awareness activities and earnings charts, financial aid information, HEP/CAMP and GED information, special support available to them, and to *read*



Raul Sital (left), principal, with his mentor and role model of over fifteen years, Dr. Bill Hansen

the role model stories as they appear on the website. Students may contact SEMY for support or with questions as to the material they view on the SEMY website.

Innovative Strategies—What Are Others Doing?

Available on the Web!

...is a complete database, with search features which allow migrant educators to:

- Share innovative strategies which work with secondary-school aged migrant students by entering a brief list of descriptors and a maximum 500 word program description;
- Search on multiple criteria to find like-districts and strategies;
- Review what others have shared.

"As education reform places increased pressure on all educators in the state, we need to use the vehicles we have readily available to us, to support one another, and to share with each other the good things we know you are implementing."

Dr. Richard Gomez, State Director, Migrant and Bilingual Programs, OSPI

Locate the Innovative Strategies Database at:
www.semy.org

If the web reviewer does not see many innovative strategies posted in this database, it is because they have not been entered by those having strategies to share. Help us to build this database, and to be truly representative of our state's Migrant Education Program.

"Wouldn't it be nice if we had a place where we could share all the good things schools are doing...and to learn from one another?" Educator at recent meeting



Success with PASS:

Strategies of Alice Villanueva, Counselor, Eisenhower High School

To remain motivated, students need to understand the relevance of the PASS course in completing their high school graduation requirements, notes Alice Villanueva. Her continuing success as Coordinator of the ESL/BRAVO Program at Eisenhower High School in Yakima was recognized at August Institute in 2001. When her name was announced as PASS Contact Person of the Year for Washington State for the 2000-01 School Year, Mrs. Villanueva's entire family was present to celebrate the well-earned recognition.

Alice supervises a classroom to which as many as 25 students float in and out each day to work on PASS coursework. During their first meeting, Alice helps the student referred to the BRAVO Program complete a simple chart matching courses completed and in progress with graduation requirements. As students enter her classroom, they immediately check their personal work file. It contains a copy of their personal plan for graduation, along with PASS materials required for the day's work.



Joel Anaya, PASS Student Working in Files

continued—see page 4

Success with PASS: Strategies of Alice Villanueva (cont'd.)

(from page 3) Each student is expected to come to the classroom to work on PASS courses as they would any other regularly scheduled class in the school day. High expectations are typical of Alice's interaction with her many PASS students. She serves as their advocate and mentor, and calmly keeps them focused and on task.

Alice was nominated by Special Projects Director Alice Lara, who noted "She quickly follows up on a student who is struggling in his content area courses and provides the encouragement and support to see him/her through his/her difficult times. Her students are extremely fond of [Mrs. Villanueva], and respect her tremendously as evidenced by their school leadership involvement."

Mrs. Villanueva shared these and other strategies for success during her feature presentation at the October 25, 2001 interactive video conference for experienced PASS Contact Persons hosted by SEMY.



Texas and Washington Share Students! Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) Testing Available this Spring and Summer in Washington State

Migrant educators in specific areas of Washington State share students with Texas educators. The challenge is to ensure continuity of education for the mobile student. Washington educators have an opportunity to administer the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS), the competency test required for graduation in Texas.

Specifically for seniors who move from Texas between February 15 and April: These students may have missed the testing schedule or may have failed the spring test in Texas. In order to graduate from their home-based school, the TAAS must be administered and passed this spring. Washington educators receiving 'spring students' are asked to call SEMY at (888) 727-7123 as soon as the twelfth-grade student is enrolled and placed in school. SEMY will assist in determining previous test results, test administrator training and testing schedules.

Summer is an opportune time in which to administer the TAAS to students attending Washington summer schools. To receive a list of spring TAAS results, contact SEMY with a list of student names, birthdates and social security numbers (if available) as soon as summer enrollments have taken place. The TAAS test may be administered this summer to students in grades 9-12 who have failed or missed a test or to those who would like to prepare in advance for upcoming tests. SEMY staff can assist in test administrator training and establishing testing schedules.



PASS Student of the Year Awards

Elsa Mendez, a senior at Connell High School, has been named recipient of the Washington PASS Student of the Year Award for 2000-01. Nominated by Contact Person Julie Nuntananusit, Elsa is completing two PASS courses in order to make up one of the graduation requirements she missed while in Mexico for seven months between her sophomore and junior years. As recipient of the State award, Elsa's story will appear in the National PASS Annual Report, and was featured in the Winter 2002 issue of Migrant Education News.

One of the youngest of 13 children, Elsa knew she did not like working in the fields but had not thought much about her own professional future. Elsa credits a discussion with her Mom for her changed attitude. "My mother has made me value everything, especially my education and knowledge." Elsa plans to graduate in May, and has been active in athletics and school clubs. She was Homecoming Princess in 2001.

Alida Mendoza, a senior at Zillah High School, has been named First Runner-Up. With support from her PASS Contact Person, Cathy Laws, and teachers, Alida remained in school following the birth of her son, and plans to continue education to become a teacher. Cathy Laws notes, "She has faced [her trials] with courage and determination...[Alida] is very focused and possesses a maturity that very few people truly possess." Alida is completing two PASS courses, has been active in numerous school and community activities and events, is a role model for her peers and siblings, and will be the first in her family to graduate this May.

Congratulations to **Jorge Sanchez** (Toppenish High), **Olga Solano** and **Joel Ayala** (Lynden High) for the honor of being nominated for this prestigious, state award!



STAFF NEWS

This year, SEMY has been blessed with babies.

Melisa Oswalt, PASS Intake and HELP Desk expert, took maternity leave to be home with her family and new son, Gabe, and has chosen to work from her home. Melisa formats new PASS curriculum, in between feedings, changings, and laundry. We miss Melisa at SEMY, as I am sure PASS Contact Persons do.

Amber Weddle, PASS Shipping expert, plans to return to SEMY on April 1, after having juggled the needs of her family, including husband, three-year-old son and new daughter, Mollee. We are looking forward to seeing Amber back in action here at SEMY.

We are pleased to introduce our newest member of SEMY, Heather Mendoza. Many of you have already met Heather, as she has been on the phone with educators across the state, quickly mastering the PASS Intake and HELP Desk duties. Heather lives in Grandview with her husband and three young sons. She comes to SEMY with experience in clerical and public relations work through the Sunnyside Chamber of Commerce. Her ready smile is always a pleasure.



Heather Mendoza, PASS Intake and HELP Desk



Workshop Series: Strategies for Middle & High School Migrant Student Success

A series of three workshops has recently been presented by SEMY staff to educators and community representatives in the Skagit/Whatcom area. Clock hours have been made available and viable working partnerships with neighboring institutes of higher education have been forged. Participants have become knowledgeable of and conversant in:

- a) Dynamics of planning and implementing effective leadership development programs that empower students, including those least likely to participate in traditional school programs, with knowledge and skills to succeed.
- b) The SLIDE (problem solving), ORID (reflection), action planning, self-assessment, mentoring, and peer coaching methods and service-learning and experiential education pedagogies.
- c) Research-based facilitation strategies and instructional practices that help migrant students achieve a meaningful high school diploma.

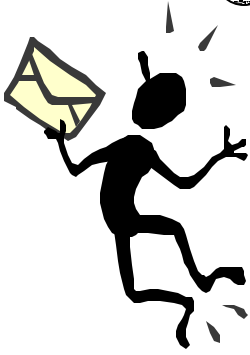
Specifically, participants have shared/enjoyed:

- √ Values and talents that empower students with the knowledge and skills they need to stay in school
- √ Specific instructional strategies that facilitate culturally competent, dynamic student learning
- √ Teacher-student communication techniques that improve student learning
- √ Collegial communication that builds teacher effectiveness

Local counselors, teachers, support staff and/or community representatives are eager to build local leadership development programs after having participated in extensive planning and training sessions since the first of the school year. For more information, contact Patricia Eastwood at SEMY, (888) 727-7123.



secondary education for migrant youth volunteer form



Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Occupation: _____

Business Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Business Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email Address: _____

Are you proficient in a language other than English? _____

If yes, please specify language. _____

What interest or skills would you like to share? _____

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Thank you, friends of SEMY, for your support, encouragement and for your
 undying efforts to build tomorrow's leaders today!

