



NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

National Interagency Fire Center
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705

MEMORANDUM

Reference: NWCG#010-2009

To: NWCG Committees, Branch Coordinators, and Wildland Fire Training Personnel

From: NWCG Chair *Brian McManis*

Date: April 16, 2009

Subject: Corporate University Business Case Information Collection Teleconferences

On Friday, April 10, 2009, the National Advanced Fire and Resource Institute (NAFRI), Tucson, Arizona, awarded a contract to Corporate University Enterprises, Inc. (CUE) to develop a business case for utilizing corporate university concepts within the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG). This study will outline current workforce development and training processes within the wildland fire community and describe how the corporate university model could be implemented in this environment. At its basic level, this study will define “why” the NWCG might choose to adopt such a model. The expected completion date is June 1, 2009.

To ensure accurate information is used within this business case and to meet the short timeframes, three avenues of information gathering will be pursued:

1. Previous studies and planning documents (1999-2009) will be reviewed.
2. Focus groups and individual interviews will be held to get input from those involved in the current programs and others interested in workforce initiatives.
3. NWCG members and fire leadership will be interviewed to determine organizational readiness for a new model for training and workforce development.

The week of April 20-24, 2009 will be the primary time in which the focus groups and individual interviews will take place, both with field personnel and the leadership. (see attachment for dates and times). All interactions will be conducted through teleconferences guided by personnel from CUE and based upon questions which will be provided prior to the scheduled discussion time. We ask those identified for these groups to be prepared with answers for these questions, which will help identify and document the current training and

workforce processes of the NWCG and partners, as well as providing ideas to improve the future activities in this arena. Teleconference numbers will be emailed to individuals, as well as being posted in the public area on the *Corporate University Concept for the Wildland Fire Community* Neighborhood in the NWCG Lessons Learned Center, Communities of Practice, which can be found at <http://www.myfirecommunity.net>.

Your participation in this important project is appreciated, and will be critical in assisting the NWCG to bring more effective and efficient learning and workforce development programs to the wildland fire community. If you have questions concerning these focus groups and interviews or the corporate university, you can contact the co-leads of the Corporate University Business Case Project: Deb Epps at deb_epps@nifc.blm.gov, 208-387-5745, or Merrie Johnson at merriejohnson@fs.fed.us, 520-799-8750.

Attachment

cc: NWCG Executive Board

CORPORATE UNIVERSITY BUSINESS CASE

Focus Groups and Individual Interviews

Task 1 – Current State Analysis

Focus Group #1: Training Working Team

[4/20/2009, Monday, 1030MDT – 1200MDT]

jim_glenn@nifc.blm.gov
merriejohnson@fs.fed.us
johnsond18@michigan.gov
chuck_wamack@nifc.blm.gov
Sue Curd/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Craig Cook/BIAFIRE/NIFC/DOI
Gordon Sachs/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES
James R Cook/WO/USDAFS
Mark Koontz/NIFC/NPS
JOEL.ROGAUSKAS@dnr.wa.gov
phannemann@tfs.tamu.edu
robertj.bennett@dhs.gov
Rosemary Thomas/BDO/ID/BLM/DOI
Kevin Conn/NIFC/R9/FWS/DOI
Dave Koch/BIAFIRE/NIFC/DOI

Focus Group #2: Geographic Area Training Representatives

[4/21/2009, Tuesday, 1030MDT - 1200MDT]

rbeams@fs.fed.us
kim_bang@co.blm.gov
jgrosman@fs.fed.us
tdoty@blm.gov
dcorner01@fs.fed.us
cindy.forrest@alaska.gov
Diana VanCurler/R6/USDAFS@FSNOTES
nichol_webb_smith@blm.gov
Jan Britt/R8/USDAFS
Dennis Baldrige/R5/USDAFS
Robert E Bell/R5/USDAFS
Paul Fieldhouse/R1/USDAFS
Debra Burgos/R8/USDAFS
Charley Luevano/NMSO/NM/BLM/DOI@BLM
Madonna Lengerich/NIFC/BLM/DOI@BLM

Focus Group #3: Training Coordinators/Project Leaders

[4/21/2009, Tuesday, 1300MDT – 1430MDT]

Noble Dunn/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Ed Secakuku/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Jan Hendrick/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Ingrid Sather/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Leigh Anne Squires-Kazimir/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Scott B Anderson/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Tyler Doggett/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Jon Kessler/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Bob Kambitsch/NIFC/BLM/DOI
LaMar St.John/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Wendell Welch/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Deborah Corner/WO/USDAFS
Mike E Williams/WO/USDAFS
Tim Peterson/WO/USDAFS
Celeste A Gordon/R3/USDAFS
Paula Nasiatka/WO/USDAFS
David Christenson/WO/USDAFS
Travis Dotson/R3/USDAFS
Jim Durrwachter/R4/FWS/DOI

NWCG#010-2009

Corporate University Business Case
Info Collection Teleconferences

Nate Gogna/NONFS/USDAFS
Michael Howorth/R5/USDAFS

Focus Group #4: Mixed Specialists

[4/23/2009, Thursday, 1030MDT – 1200MDT]

ANYONE MISSING FOCUS GROUP #1-3 CALLS

Stephen A Gage/WO/USDAFS
Billy Terry/NA/USDAFS
Tom G Zimmerman/WO/USDAFS
Lisa Elenz/GRTE/NPS
Clint Cross/R8/USDAFS
Dave Curry/AFS/AK/BLM/DOI
Tim Sexton/WO/USDAFS
Cheryl L Dickson/R3/USDAFS
Kristy Lund/R3/USDAFS
Jim Sanders/R9/USDAFS
Dennis Dupuis/BIAFIRE/NIFC/DOI
Emily Irwin/R3/USDAFS
James R Cook/WO/USDAFS
Bill Molumby/MOBILE/R1/FWS/DOI
Cliff.C.Liedtke@state.or.us
bwalker@tfs.tamu.edu

Individual Interviews [TBD]

Deb Epps/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Merrie M Johnson/WO/USDAFS
Vince Mazzier/NIFC/BLM/DOI

Task 2 – Leadership’s Readiness to Support Learning

Focus Group #5: Branch Coordinators & NWCG Program Mgr. [TBD]

Paul Schlobohm/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Tim Blake/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Elaine Waterbury/NIFC/BLM/DOI
Shari Shetler/NIFC/BLM/DOI

NWCG/Agency Members - Individual Interviews [TBD]

Brian McManus/NIFC/R9/FWS/DOI@FWS
Dan Smith/NIFC/BLM/DOI@BLM
hugh.wood@dhs.gov
jim.erickson@couleedam.net
Karyn L Wood/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES
Wm C Waterbury/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES
Lyle Carlile/BIAFIRE/NIFC/DOI@DOI
Mike Hilbruner/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES
Timothy Murphy/NIFC/BLM/DOI@BLM
Tom Nichols/NIFC/NPS@NPS
William Kaage/NIFC/NPS@NPS
aitor_bidaburu@fs.fed.us
Kirk Rowdabaugh/OWFC/OS/DOI
Jim Douglas/WO/BLM/DOI