Minutes from Cohort Call #1
January 27, 2017
2:00-3:15pm

Individuals Present:
- Katie Turek / Ursinus College
- Matt Cummings / Depauw University
- Bryan Figura, Blake Stack, Arthur Tartee, Ciana-Lenae Young / University of Richmond
- Ian McGinnity / University of Tampa
- Natalie Vickous / Lindsey Wilson College
- Amber Finnicum-Simmons / Stetson University
- Brad Brewer / Christopher Newport University
- Jana Schroeder / Earlham College
- Sharifa Ford / Rollins College
- Charmaine Wilson / Allegheny College
- Liz Brandt, Greg Chery / Centre College
- Claudio Mir / Rutgers New Brunswick
- Sam Ha / Bonner Foundation

Notes (follows the flow of the Cohort Call Presentation)
- Introduction
  - Sam went over the agenda for the call, which included a brief overview of the assignment, time for each participant to share their campus strategy, and resources/next steps after this call.
- The overall question of the Cohort assignment was: What is your campus' strategy to increase Student-Led Campus-Wide Engagement?
  - More specifically: How will your campus use your Student Coalition to increase campus-wide engagement?
- The next portion of the call was focused on allowing each participant to share their campus strategy. After each individual or team got a chance to share, the cohort got a chance to ask questions or provide feedback. The following entries are categories by campus team:
  - **Ian McGinnity - University of Tampa** (refer to slide 8)
    - Strategy for gathering students for the coalition: getting in touch with outside orgs as well as ones within the PEACE office.
    - Spring: planning on doing the ground work to figure out what can get done in the Fall
    - Right now using OrgSync Calendar through PEACE
      - Trying to get other groups to use it as well
      - Also trying to increase collaboration (conjoining smaller events into one large event)
      - Filling the gaps during the calendar when nothing is planning
    - Idea to convene the Student Coalition *electronically,* rather than in person
    - Coalition will hopefully be made up of 8-12 students
  - **Katie Turek - Ursinus College** (refer to slide 10)
    - To form the Student Coalition, brainstormed what student orgs have large influence on campus life?
      - Meetings planned with the idea that the participating students will have ownership in directing the council toward specific projects/functions
    - Ursinus currently has an event management system, but it is underutilized - this coalition will hopefully increase the use of this
    - There is the problem that if people are not part of service groups (like Bonner or Scholars in Service), they feel like they cannot do service. Hopefully the coalition will also help rid this stigma.

- Partnering with Office of Sustainability for transportation issues - carpooling board/ride-sharing
  - At Allegheny: different work study students are hired to drive students in their own cars, which has helped to alleviate some transportation issues
  - At Rollins: Working on getting school-vehicles approved to help with transportation
- **Natalie Vickous - Lindsey Wilson College** (refer to slide 11)
  - Trying to make sure that they're not spreading themselves too thin, so trying to really think about what a student coalition could do for them
  - Student Coalition could help advertise for events ahead of time
  - Currently have a LWC App that is user-friendly: want to use that in a better way
    - Hope to encourage more collaboration and communication across departments
    - App: Ooh La La (more info from Natalie on Basecamp)
  - Have the coalition choose a topic that is important to them, and plan a service event surrounding that event
  - Not much student interaction between departments, but hopefully the coalition would push that forward
- **Bryan, Blake, and 2 Senior Interns - University of Richmond** (refer to slide 12)
  - Stakeholders across campus have been working to create and update UR Strategic Plan. From that has come this need to champion civic engagement throughout campus
    - Therefore, trying to decentralize service so that it is easy and accessible to all students
  - This initiative is actually the Bonner Congress Big Idea, and it's trying to use Bonners in a way that they haven't been used before
  - Arthur created a spreadsheet that includes a list of organizations, Bonner contact, and contact info for all of the Bonner service being done on campus. This database is the first step toward increasing campus-wide engagement, before the implementation of students "shadowing" Bonners during 4-week orientation in the Fall and Spring.
- **Liz Brandt & Greg Chery** - Centre College (refer to slide 7)
  - Looking to implement a service-distinction-like program; can work with Brad Brewer from CNU to make this happen.
  - Faculty Engagement: one particular Bonner will work closely faculty to increase community based learning
  - Coordinating Council: trying to bring all of the service-requirement orgs together to discuss needs and opportunities
- **Amber Finnicum-Simmons** - Stetson University (refer to slide 13)
  - Service Corps: used to have this about 6 years ago, and now trying to bring it back
    - Initial Student Coalition: Important to start with student leaders in the office first
    - Want to make sure that the initial council has say in WHO from the other campus orgs should be included/invited
  - General Idea: Collective leadership training in April, which will lead into different tracks that student leaders can continue working on over the summer and into the next year
- **Matt Cummings - Depauw University** (refer to slide 15)
  - Depauw has a large greek community, which means that many students are doing service - they just don't necessarily know what they're doing
    - Meeting with philanthrophy chairs of Greek Orgs to bring them together
    - Launching a Greek Service Award
      - Greeks submit applications to Center, and one sorority and fraternity will be selected.
      - The two winning orgs will receive $250 for their partner organization in the community, and a letter or praise to their national Greek office.
      - Good incentive because Matt has found that Greeks like good PR to their national counterpart
  - Working to create Civic Day of Action: nonpartisan days when students will contact their Congressmen/ mayors/ etc. - hope to serve as an entry point to get more students involved with civic engagement

- **Jana Schroeder - Earlham College**
  - Trying to pull together calendars from the Center, as well from other events on campus
  - Also trying to pull together an inventory of clubs who are participating in service
  - Not quite yet at the coalition model yet, but hoping to work with Bonner students first
- **Sharifa Ford - Rollins College**
  - Focus on campus wide service events
  - Reaching out to campus programs to pull students leaders and brainstorm ideas together
- Based on the referral from Charli Linemann from IUPUI during Fall Director's, Sam reached out to Penn State to learn more about their service coalition called the Council of Lionhearts. (refer to slide 16)
  - They have been established for 13 years now, and they have a large council that meets weekly on Friday afternoons.
  - There are extensive notes about this council on the slide and on Basecamp.
- Cohort Resources
  - After this call, the resources available to participants include:
    - The call presentation and minutes, accessible on Basecamp
      - Originally, the call was also meant to be recorded, but that didn't occur due to technical difficulties (Sam's fault.. Sorry!)
    - A sample 1st meeting agenda will be posted, which may be adapted to each campus
      - Participants are also encouraged to post their meeting agendas, as well as any other documents, handouts, or resources that may be helpful for other members of the cohort, on Basecamp for reference
    - Basecamp as an online forum for questions, advice, and support.
- Next Steps
  - All of the campus teams are encouraged to move forward with their strategy. In most cases, this requires setting up the first meeting with the student coalition.
  - The next Cohort Call will tentatively be planned for late February/early March. This call will be predominantly a check-in call regarding progress with the campus strategy.
  - Future call topics include
    - A call regarding the role of community partners in pursuing student-led campus-wide engagement. We are currently heavily focused on the campus and student side of the initiative, and this call will delve into the important role of the community.
    - A call regarding the potential use of service tracking systems in pursuing student-led campus-wide engagement. Many Bonners campuses utilize different systems - OrgSync, GivePulse - and this call may include guests from these campuses or reps from the tracking systems themselves.