**Statement from Kris Nei**

Barbara Bridges has worked with me intensively throughout the past 4 semesters as my colleague and mentor.  She has selflessly promoted our University, College, Department, and PEDL program by designing, redesigning, and supporting on-campus and distance learning programming.  She has served as an excellent role model for me, students, and colleagues.  Barbara’s message is simple: Walk Your Talk, and do it for the greater good.   Barbara is passionate about her mission and has put herself “at risk” professionally to promote and sometimes even redesign the BSU learning community.  Her goals and objectives are constant; to serve the underserved and marginalized.  She is a true agent of change.  Over the past 15 years her vision and creativity have changed the way we do business at BSU. The people her programs serve are often place-bound and have no access to a traditional Face-to Face education on any college campus.

She serves on a variety of committees, both on campus, and for PEDL (Professional Education Distance Learning)

Although not her only accomplishment, Barbara’s biggest effort in the past year has been to redesign and re-launch the FasTrack licensure program.  Although the tasks connected with that are too many to list individually, here are some of the monumental tasks she undertook and accomplished in that effort:

Complete redesign of the FasTrack program as per BOT Specifications

Redesign of the 80/20-90/10 model for FasTrack

* Sharing this financial model with several other Department initiatives

Conceptualizing the introductory course, ED 3000 to meet BOT specifications for PERCA compliant transcript review

Mentoring Michael and Kris Nei through moving the program proposal through the curriculum review process, making edits in the proposal, and serving as the primary writer of all documents.

Although reluctant at first, Barbara agreed to assume complete responsibility for FasTrack PostBac re-launch after Dr. Pickle announced she was planning to go on leave at the end of June.  This was immediately after the State of Minnesota stamped the FasTrack Proposal.  Barbara was able to direct, design, and manage the re-launch of the entire program to “beta stage” in just two months. This included, but was not limited to:

Directing re-design of all marketing materials and strategies

* Conceptualizing the use of Social Networking for PEDL program promotion
* Managing the team of Teaching Assistants helping create and disseminate promotional materials for both DLiTE and FasTrack

Creating the final version of ED 3000

Re-visioning the PEDL administrative structure to empower all team members in decision making

Rewording and reworking all PEDL documents and archives held on the PEDL Wiki

* Because of serious lapses in record-keeping by several previous PEDL administrators, Barbara spent hundreds of hours “cleaning up” and recreating documentation avenues including repositories of documents, records, and student files

 Soft and Hard launch of FasTrack

* Taking over all responsibilities with administration and management of ED 3000 when it became apparent that many Content Coordinators were unwilling to engage with students on the discussion boards
* Continual re-evaluation and re-design of program admissions process through Registration and  the Office of Graduate Studies
* Barbara continues to set up and run recruiting sessions online for both DLiTE and FasTrack on Monday evenings

           Reestablishing a presence for PEDL at the CAO Conference

* Creating a data bank of all new leadership at partner institutions and inviting all Deans to the meeting held at Rutger’s in October
* Reworking the MOU for Partners
* Inviting Lynda Milne (Assistant to the Chancellor of MNSCU) to chair our oversight board
* Meeting with Lynda Milne to refine program marketing and stated goals for the 21st century delivery of online curriculum and program expansion
* Undertaking  the “China Initiative” at this same time as point of contact and program liaison for development
* Mentoring our Teaching Assistants and overseeing the continuation of promotion of programs through Social Networking
* Mentoring a new Instructor to “take over” ED 30000
* Mentoring Kris Nei to serve as Chair for Hiring Committee and as Director for FasTrack -  PEDL

* Contributing and Mentoring as PEDL team compiles FasTrack Probationary Report for BOT in April 2014

Service to the Department - Technology Committee:

* Authoring our Grant Proposal for Technology Innovation
* Creating a Technology Bank for our Department as a repository of innovation and Best Practice utilizing Technology at the Point of instruction

Service to the Department -  Graduate Committee:

* Attending all meetings via Web-Ex
* Triage with a mis-advised student whom had somehow enrolled in 3 programs, including DLiTE, FasTrack (before it was online) and Master’s (language barrier necessitated 15+ hours of meetings via email, phone, WebEx
* Service as Chair of Committee for Jacqueline Ewert’s Graduate defense

Service to the department -  Search Committee

* Barbara Chaired at least one search committee  (interviews in January, 2013)