Student Success Committee
Wednesday, May 27, 2009 - 2:30pm – 4:00 pm

ACR

Minutes


1) Approval of Agenda

2) Approval of Minutes: April 29, 2009

3) Events Review:

3.1 Best Practice in Learning Support Centers Webinar – K. Boddicker – The webinar included a list of learning skills and study skills that seemed very useful. The list was sent to the Math Department to review. They said that there were some problems with the math skills, but it seemed like a good place to start. It was recommended that the list be used by departments after they reviewed the lists’ contents.

3.2 CATESOL – Sandra Schneider – This seminar focused on the issues of the “1.5 Generation.”

- Characteristics - This is a group of students who learned English after the “critical period” between the ages of 3 and 6. They are weak readers, but they have no delayed English Literacy. They are misdiagnosed as ESL, and are often bounced around from ESL to ENL courses.
- Solution – There are several things one can do to help these students:
  - Language acquisition should be embedded in all classes – not just ESL.
  - Serving these students should be a part of teacher training.
  - We need to do a better job identifying these students.
- Group Discussion
  - How many of these students are on campus? – We are not sure, as these students often go undiagnosed.
  - How do we identify these students? – There was some discussion of passing out a survey to students in both English and non-English (CATE) classes.
  - If it takes 7 years to master a language, how do we serve this population of students in the expected 2 years they are supposed to spend in a community college? How do we change a campus cultures to give students the time to learn this language correctly?
  - How do we develop the appropriate focus on reading and writing that will create the intensity, including immersion and learning communities, that these students need?
- Task Force - M. Prochter, P. Paggie and R. Linsday-Sawyer volunteered to work with S. Schneider to discuss identification and service issues.

3.3 Basic Skills Regional Meeting: Southern California – C. Kiekel – This was a workshop in which we discussed the Basic Skills Initiative mission and goals. Mission and goals are still being discussed by the steering committee, and will be brought to the next meeting.

4) Upcoming Events:

4.1 – Basic Skills Initiative Boot camp
Date: 5/29/09 to 5/31/09
Location: Chaffey College

4.2 – Undocumented Students: An Overview of Policies, Myths and Best Practices
Date: 06/17/2009
Location: CSB
Attending: R. Carachure

4.3 Guiding Undocumented Students: Discovering Funding Opportunities and Developing Support Programs that Work
Date: 06/24/09
Location: CSB
Attending: R. Carachure

4.4 – Strengthening Student Conference
Date: 10/7/09-10/9/09
Location: San Francisco Airport Marriott

5) Budget Request: Action

5.1 Psychology Request – A. Hennesey – Approved - This request is to train for and conduct workshops with students on meta-cognitive skills. The goal of this work is to get students to better understand the process of their thinking and, therefore, their learning. Target populations include Psychology students, students in Basic Skills courses, and faculty who teach basic skills students.

5.2 Kurzweil Conference – I. Goodman – Approved - This request is for Suleman Ishaque to attend the Kurzweil software training this August. He will learn how to use the Smart Text system to help our DSPS students.

5.3 Contextualized College Success Courses – R. Abbamontian, L. White – Approved - This is for a series of one-unit, contextualized basic skills course. The courses will be set up for Art History, Philosophy, and Animal Science. A professional development workshop will be conducted to the rest of the faculty in the spring 2010 semester on best practices, what worked, and what didn’t.

5.4 English Jam – D. Accardo – Approved - This project identifies English 21 students (score of 43-62) who might be able to go into English 28. The grammar review will refresh students’ memory of basic grammar. Students will then retake the placement test to see if they test into English 28.

6) General Announcements Info

6.1 Basic Skills Handbook – Deferred to next meeting

6.2 Budget Cuts – Although we are not sure what will happen to future basic skills funds, the college will continue to focus on student success. If we focus on student success now, then we can save money in the long run. Past funds will not be taken away, so we can utilize those funds over the next year.

7) Next Meeting: June 24, 2009 at 2:30 – 4:00pm