Student Success Committee
Wednesday, November 18, 2009 - 2:30pm – 4:30 pm

ACR
Minutes


1) Approval of Agenda- Approved

2) Approval of Minutes- Approved

3) Program Update –
   3.1 185 - R. Abbamontian gave an update on the 185 classes. This is a 1-unit course in Art History that combines reading, writing, study skills, counseling and Art History lessons aimed at preparing students for success in Art History. This was the pilot project. There were difficulties with scheduling and recruitment, but the core of students who took the class said that it was very helpful. Ramela shared that she learned a lot from the students this semester, and that she is looking forward to offering the class in the spring.

4) Budget
   4.1 Proposed Budget Handout - C. Kiekel handed out the proposed budget for 2010-2011. It includes money for supplies, salaries, projects/stipends, tutoring and benefits. Although the basic skills budget was cut by 32%, Pierce has roll over funds from the past years that we can use to supplement the current allotment. The college can spend $200,000 each year for the next few years and still maintain a moderate surplus.

5) Funding Proposals
   5.1 Funding Evaluation Exercise – C. Kiekel handed out the updated program evaluation matrix that the Pierce task group refined from a matrix that was developed at a leadership institute over the summer. In the interest of saving time, C. Kiekel handed out the matrix and a training exercise, but did not do the training exercise with the group. The exercise will wait until next time.

   5.2 Possible Funding Timeline – C. Kiekel asked the committee what the members think about putting timelines on funding proposal submissions. Those in favor argued that it would allow the committee to have a better idea of how much money is being spent, and will give applicants time to think their projects through before requesting funds. Those who were not in favor of timelines opposed the idea because the current system allows applicants to apply for funds in a timely way instead of needing to wait months before they can plan their programs and purchases. It was said that those departments who have timelines on budget proposals end up arguing with one another over who gets what from the available funds. It was decided that, at this time, the committee will not impose timelines; however, in the future, if funds get tighter, we will revisit the idea.

6) Project Updates
   6.1 Early Alert – P. Braxton, A. Saryan – The technology was not working, so P. Braxton just let the committee know that the college is implementing a new Early Alert system, and that training will be available soon.

7) Handbook Presentations
   7.1 Rosdahl and S. Perkins – Chapter 13 – Tom and Skip presented Chapter 13 of the Basic Skills Handbook, which covered issues of CTE, ESL, and the importance of contextualized learning. Handout is attached.
8) Events Review

8.1 BSI Teaching and Learning Workshop – R Skidmore, T. Robbins, B Smith, C. Kiekel – These four attended this series of workshops held in Burbank. The reports of the workshops were largely positive. T. Robbins attended a workshop on incorporating learning styles into the classroom. B. Smith attended a presentation by De Anza College on an Algebra learning community. This learning community is institutionalized. Pass rates are 70-80% and there is a high degree of coordination between the faculty and the counseling staff.

9) Spring Convocation

9.1 Speakers – I. Goodman reported that we have spoken to some potential speakers for convocation and we are in the process of booking them.

9.2 Tables - C. Kiekel recommended that we have tables featuring Student Success Initiatives during breakfast and lunch

10) Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 15 from 2:30 – 4:30pm

11) Continuation of the Associate Dean of Student Success Position -