

Skills4Success Committee Meeting
Thursday February 26th, 2009
Library 206 (R-206)
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Attendees: Edel Alonso (Counseling), Jennifer Brezina (English), Leslie Carr (Professional Development), Susan Crowther (MESA), John Garcia (English), Collette Gibson (Math), Anzhela Grigoryan (Math), Lee Hilliard (Computer Networking), Susan Ling (DSP&S), Mojdeh Mahn (TLC), Jose Martin (Modern Language), Michael McMahan (Humanities), Daylene Meuschke (Institutional Research), Catherine Parker (Research), Denee Pescarmona (English), Russell Richardson (Political Science), Tracey Sherard (English)

I. Review and Approve Minutes from February 12th

Minutes were passed out and reviewed by those in attendance. Revisions were made and the minutes were approved to be posted to the Skills4Success website.

II. Mission Statement, New Name, Organizational Chart

At the previous meeting, the committee talked about changing the groups name from College Success Skills Task Force to something else. Committee members that were present voted to change the committee name to “Skills4Success”.

Also at the previous meeting a draft of a mission statement was created by Denee Pescarmona. Committee members sent Denee suggestions on the mission statement and from those suggestions 4 mission statements were created and voted on by committee members that were present. The committee voted closely on two of the mission statements. The two mission statements were combined and revised to come up with the following mission statement:

College of the Canyons Skills4Success empowers students to achieve their educational, employment, and civic goals through continued development of language, mathematical, analytical, and technological skills. Skills 4 Success is committed to creating an environment of learning and student engagement through coordinated instruction, student services, and supplementary services.

An organizational chart was passed out to the committee members who were present. The organizational chart lists out members of the following sub-committees: Budget, Curriculum, Faculty Inquiry Groups, Professional Development, Research, Student Focus Groups, Supplemental Instruction, and Technology/Open Computer Lab. Committee members made revisions to the organizational chart and the chart will be posted on the Skills4Success website.

III. Open Computer Lab Proposal

Jennifer Brezina reported on the open computer lab proposal that has been submitted and approved. The technology sub-committee has met since the last committee meeting and envisioned a computer lab with instructional software that credit and noncredit students could use. The technology committee sees the open computer lab eventually being staffed by a non-credit instructor, but initially being staffed by an adult hourly employee with another adult hourly to help with the computers. The technology committee hopes to get this going by late March. The technology committee sees this as an instructional lab more than a tutoring lab. The technology committee is looking at ways to do this at the Canyon Country Campus as well as the Valencia campus. Hasley Hall 306 has been identified as a temporary location until a permanent location is determined.

IV. Research

Daylene Meuschke and Catherine Parker reported on what the research sub-committee has been working on. The non-credit ESL and the Hart District math placement research projects are in the final editing stage and the Math 025 profile has been put into a final report. An English research project requested by Denee Pescarmona and Tracey Sherard for the progression rates English 071, 081, and 091 students. Other research projects that are coming up include looking at the effectiveness of “The Zone”, high school placement from outside of the Hart District, and English retention success rate by faculty type – adjunct/full-time.

V. Work Group Reports

The Supplemental Instruction sub-committee reported that they will be getting together within the next week to discuss which direction they will be going.

Denee reported on behalf of the Professional Development sub-committee. Denee let the committee know that they are getting people together two conferences coming up, the CTE Basic Skills meeting in Universal City and the Santa Barbara City College Colloquium “Building Student Success: Planning, Implementing, and Evaluating a Student Success Initiative”. Anyone interested in attending either conference should contact Audrey Green.

The budget/funding sub-committee will be meeting on March 9th and will also be holding a Skills4Success funding workshop on March 20th.

VI. Hewlett Leaders in Student Success:

Denee reminded the committee that the Hewlett Leaders site visit team will be coming to COC on April 2nd for their site visit. A schedule of the day is being compiled and will be available through Audrey Green's office.

VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday March 26th from 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm in Library 206. The March 12th meeting will not be held to allow the sub-committees time to meet and start working on their projects.