

# **COLLEGE SUCCESS SKILLS TASK FORCE**

**Thursday August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

**Library-206**

**3:30 – 4:30 pm**

Attendees: Edel Alonso (Counseling), Alto Benedicto (Chemistry), Jennifer Brezina (Community Education), Mitjl Capet (Instruction), Leslie Carr (Professional Development), Susan Crowther (MESA), John Garcia (English), Collette Gibson (Math), Audrey Green (Program Development), Anzhela Grigoryan (Math), Alex Fors (MIS), Lee Hilliard (Computer Networking), Kevin Kistler (Academic Affairs), Heather MacLean (ESL), Mojdeh Mahn (TLC), Ram Manvi (Math, Science & Engineering), Michael McMahan (Humanities), Daylene Meuschke (Institutional Development), Ana Palmer (Math), Denee Pescarmona (English), Mary Petersen (English), Russell Richardson (Political Science), Debbie Rio (Student Services)

## **I. Next Step For College Success Skills (Basic Skills)**

Dr. Capet opened the meeting by asking the group for ideas on what the next step for the College Success Skills Task Force should be. Dr. Capet suggested going out and talking to faculty, administrators and staff to get as many ideas as we can. We have the resources to do this but we need to know how to do it.

Dr. Manvi asked if the Basic Skills funds were exclusively for Math & English, Dr. Capet let the group know that was not the case and that the fund are available for where the students are.

## **II. Priorities for the First Year**

Dr. Capet let the group know we have a “skeleton” plan for the first year, including “The Zone” for student athletes. It was also suggested that we look at practices of our sister colleges to see what is working for them.

Dr. McMahan suggested that we try to measure why students who leave their classes are not successful, maybe be looking at points in certain courses where the drops are higher.

Dr. Capet brought up the idea of developing a “First Course” on being a successful student, such as the Counseling 111 course, but make it a mandatory course and not just for counseling. Audrey Green asked if one unit was enough time for a course like this and if it could possibly be a three unit course. Susan Crowther brought up the idea of getting data on students who take Counseling 111 versus students who have not.

The idea of developing a College Success Skills Newsletter was brought up to help inform faculty of what exactly is going on with this project, because it seems like a lot of faculty do not know about the College Success Skills project. There seems to be a lack of information from the faculty on College Success Skills and a newsletter could help facilitate more information from faculty members, as of this meeting there were only 8 faculty members in the task force.

### **III. Developing the Next Steps**

Audrey Green and Denee Pescarmona agreed to start developing a College Success Skills Newsletter. Heather MacLean, Susan Crowther and Jennifer Brezina agreed to work on how to approach faculty members to get their input.

### **IV. Next Meeting**

The College Success Skills Task Force agreed to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month from 2:00 -3:00 pm. The next meeting will take place in Thursday September 11, when a room has been reserved an Outlook meeting update will be sent out.