

COLLEGE SUCCESS SKILLS TASK FORCE

Thursday February 12th, 2009

Library 206 (R-206)

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Attendees: Leslie Bretall (Library), Jennifer Brezina (English), Fred D'Astoli (English), Renee Drake (Distance learning), John Garcia (English), Collette Gibson (Math), Audrey Green (Academic Affairs), Anzhela Grigoryan (Math), Lee Hilliard (Computer Networking), Adam Kempler (English), Kevin Kistler (Instructional Support), Svetlana Lynch (English), Heather MacLean (ESL), Mojdeh Mahn (TLC), Ram Manvi (Math, Science, Engineering), Chelley Maple (Matriculation), Jose Martin (Modern Language), Michael McMahan (Humanities), Daylene Meuschke (Institutional Research), Catherine Parker (Research), Denee Pescarmona (English), Mary Petersen (English), Russell Richardson (Political Science), Tracey Sherard (English)

I. Professional Development

-Symposium Debrief and Next Steps

Audrey Green and Denee Pescarmona spoke about the College Success Skills Symposium that took place on February 2nd. We had about 80 -85 attendees throughout the day and most of the feedback from the evaluations was positive, some evaluations made mention of wanting more “hands on stuff” if we were to host an event like this in the future. Janet Fulks , the keynote speaker from Bakersfield College, has sent us her PowerPoint presentation that will be made available for anyone who would like it. Janet mentioned she would be available to come back for a half day workshop on deep learning if we would like her to.

-Wednesday Workshop

Denee let the group know that the last Wednesday of each month there will be a series of College Success Skills Wednesday Workshops. The first workshop will be held on Wednesday February 25th and the topic will be on how to use clickers and how to integrate them into your classroom.

-Basic Skills Certificate

Denee spoke about developing a basic skills certificate similar to the on-line teaching certificate. Mt San Antonio College currently has a Developmental Education Faculty Certificate Program that contain the following three modules: 1) Philosophy and Definitions of Developmental Education, 2) Facilitating a Developmental Education Approach within the Classroom, and 3) Introduction to Learning Communities and Developing a Holistic Developmental Approach to the Classroom. Denee has the information on the certificate program at Mt. Sac if anyone is interested in seeing it.

II. Research

-Request Form

Daylene Meuschke and Catherine Parker spoke about the request for research form that they have developed. A copy of the form was handed out to the group to review. When a request for research comes in both Daylene and Catherine review it with the requestor.

-Research Projects Currently Underway

One of the research projects currently underway is a Non Credit ESL profile. The data includes the age, gender and ethnicity of who is taking non credit courses, the number of times students are taking a non-credit course before moving up to the next level of that course, and regression-how many students are taking a higher level course before taking the lower level course. Other research projects underway include math placement for class of 2008 from the Hart District-how many students are enrolling in the level they are assessed at and the effectiveness of "The Zone".

III. Mission Statement

Denée presented a sample mission statement to the group. Suggestions and comments on the mission statement can be sent to Denée. Finalizing the mission statement will be an item on the agenda at the February 26th meeting.

-New Name for College Success Skills Taskforce

Audrey let the group know a few people have mentioned coming up with a new name to replace "College Success Skills Task Force", mainly to remove the word College from the title since these skills are not just related to college but life skills as well. One name that had been suggested is "Skills for Success", this would shorten the title and we would be able to brand this name "S4S" and possibly come up with a logo for it. Any other suggestions for a new name can be sent to patrick.backes@canyons.edu by Thursday February 19th. Finalizing a new name will also be an agenda item at the February 26th meeting.

IV. Work Group Reports

-Supplemental Instruction, Chaffey College Visit

Jose Martin, Mojdeh Mahn, Collette Gibson, and Mary Petersen reported on their visit to Chaffey College to see their Student Success Centers. The Chaffey faculty uses these success centers to accomplish what they do not have to do during class. Many of the instructors require their students to visit the success centers for a certain number of hours, which the instructors put on the course syllabus. The students spend their time in the success centers attending workshops conducted by faculty, working in study groups, completing worksheets assigned by instructors, and working with tutors.

-Professional Development

The professional development group will be getting together in the next week to discuss the Wednesday workshop series, classified workshops, and the Basic Skills/Developmental Education certificate.

-New Faculty Inquiry Groups (FIGs)

This will be a new subgroup of the College Success Skills Taskforce that will help promote and organize inquiry on campus. Anyone who is interested in being a part of this subgroup can let Audrey or Denée know.

-Funding

The budget/funding group needs two additional volunteers to review the request for funds proposals. Heather MacLean and Jose Martin volunteered to join the funding group.

V. Hewlett Leaders in Student Success

Audrey let the group know that College of the Canyons has been selected as one of 12 campuses to be visited by the Hewlett Leaders in Student Success program. The visit will take place on April 2nd and we may be contacting members of the task force to set up appointment on that day to meet with the site visit team. Of the 12 colleges that are visited, 4 will be recognized that demonstrate promising and innovative approaches to student success in basic skills. The 4 colleges selected will be recognized at the 2009 Strengthening Student Success conference in San Francisco.

VI. Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday February 26th from 1:30 – 3:00 in Library 206 (R-206).