3-7-14 Basic Skills Meeting

Present: Victor Cummings, Lauren Servais, Li Collier, Connie Gozzarino, Julie Muzzatti, Jim Cason, Lauralyn Larsen, KC Greaney, Margaret Grayson, Inez Barragan, and Gary Allen

Absent: Mary Kay Rudolph, Geoff Navarro, Ann Foster, Carlos Valencia and Anna Brown

Minutes from 2/7/14 approved.

Kris Abrahamson has been recruited to the Student Success Committee and has decided to give up the Basic Skills Committee.

Margaret says in DRD they want to pair classes with Basic Skills and the students would actually do work in the classroom. She says years ago there were math/counseling classes paired together (Math Anxiety and Math Study Skills) and it was very successful. Julie asked if DRD Math classes are being considered for the future. Margaret will check into it. There was also a 1 unit English Writing Skills class that was offered – this could be a great addition to assist students (either before assessment test or to help in English 1A).

The English Dept. had two days of instructional support to talk about values, what matters in their dept, what is the perception and how can they make sure it is the right idea?

Lauren suggested that fall PDA is a conference day and spring PDA is set aside for departments to meet for six hours straight.

REPORTS

AB86: Adult Education – legislation created and a local consortium put together to organize Sonoma County and who is going to deliver adult education. SRJC and Petaluma Adult School are the two main players – need to identify all organizations in County who want to teach adult education. NC ESL, HEP and College Skills will all be involved in creating/teaching classes for adults.

The consortium has been given $308,000 for planning and research – Jim Cason said they have been trying to create some short-term career technical programs in Culinary. They may have to be non-credit classes.

College Skills: They have changed from DHR to scheduled labs in Math classes where the students go into the lab with their instructor and class. They are trying to create another lab in the College Skills Dept. – there may not be room in Analy Village.
ESL: Faculty wants to do some curriculum and pathway redesign. They may need reassigned time or time on a PDA Day to have a Dept. Retreat time.

English: 2-day in service this week, all full time and many adjunct faculty were there. They met for six hours. Paying the adjunct to be at the workshop is important. They have faculty course leaders to share assignments, common assessments, textbooks, and how to refine the course. Five JAM sessions scheduled starting May 25 through June 17 – they are following the students on how successful they are after participating in the JAM session. Amy Flores in College Skills is looking at Math JAM sessions. (367.1, 367.2, and 371 are CSKLS classes that could be used for assessment preparedness).

The Math Dept. is doing a 1-2 week Math JAM session.

Basic Skills Coordinator: Lauren wants to work with other departments with curriculum and pathway redesign.

Learning Communities: how do you teach the students to build strong skills? How do they manage their impulsivity? Motivational Conference on April 4th sponsored by Puente Program (Lauren and Luz). Helping students ready to transfer.

CA Acceleration Program – English Dept. is putting in the application. Mentoring, curriculum development, and a pilot program which would shorten the pathway. The program concentrates on English and Math.

Connie talked about bringing in a speaker to talk to faculty about student success. KC has a recommended speaker, Darla Cooper, $1200 plus transportation costs. Very engaging, African American, great style - could be co-sponsored by SSSP.

Retreat in fall PDA: 3 hour session “Bridge to Nowhere” (Rethinking Basic Skills Pathway). Invite Darla Cooper to lead half session and then break out sessions. Diversity is the theme of the next PDA Day – so Darla would be a great speaker. Victor will talk to Kris about Professional Development Committee and whether they would hire Darla or not. Or would the workshop be good for faculty to come together and discuss pathways?

Innovations Institute: The week after graduation – 1-2 days. Reading apprenticeship for faculty – they can use the summer to prepare. How do you read for understanding? Slow down. May 26th and 27th. One day before fall semester have another Innovations Institute and focus on “Habits of Mind”. Margaret suggested pairing up faculty to work on syllabi and an assignment in the workshop.

Strategic Plan: Victor handed out a Strategic Plan brochure – one of the goals is: Foster Learning and Academic Excellence
- Support and promote teaching excellence across all disciplines.
- Engage students and spark intellectual curiosity in learner-centered environments.
- Integrate academic and student support services across the college.
- Identify and implement responsive instructional practices that increase the learning and success of our diverse students.

Serve our Diverse Communities
- Identify the educational needs of our changing demographics and develop appropriate and innovative programs and services with a focus on the increasing Latino/a population.

Student Success and Support Committee: Met first time March 5th – members and guests. Focused on student success plan and student equity plan. Gov. Brown proposed funds for student equity – but no clear guidelines. Two meetings in April and two in May, two in June, retreat in July.

For next meeting on 4/4/14 – Li wants to integrate faculty with student services. Early Connection Program “Connect Early, Connect Often”. Li should have some demonstration available by the next BS meeting. Can she have some time? It is a program for a faculty to contact a student who may be having trouble and there is a long list of services at the college they can refer the students to. Li is trying to do a proposal for PDA Day also.

KC will have the scorecard data – she will check if the Poppy Copy data will be available for next meeting.

Next meeting: 4/4/14