

21-22 Sabbatical Leave Report Abstracts

Smita Avasthi, Library Resources and Educational Technology, Fall 2021

Smita Avasthi examined pedagogical strategies related to accelerated education and academic support services. She investigated and identified library instruction programs to reach underprepared students who are assigned research papers under the precept of AB705. Based upon this research, she developed a program to provide additional library support to unprepared students at Santa Rosa Junior College.

Joe Corcoran, Communication Studies, Fall 2020 and Spring 2021

Joe Corcoran researched OER in Communication. He then wrote an online textbook for Comm 60, which stands at 70,370 words, and is currently published inside of Canvas and in use for Fall 2021. The textbook is helping students by providing current information at no cost to them. By Fall of 2022, the textbook will be uploaded onto the SRJC library website as an OER for any SRJC student or staff member to view.

Nicole Corcoran, Counseling, Fall 2021

Nicole Corcoran researched career exploration resources and assessments to use while counseling students who are undecided on their major and career fields. She explored tools and resources used by other college Career and Counseling Centers to help students formulate their career and educational goals. Online career counseling resources and inventories were summarized in a document which will be shared with faculty and staff to utilize when providing students with career exploration opportunities. Nicole also received certification in the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, one of the most popular psychometric tools for exploring personality. By training to become an MBTI Certified Practitioner, Nicole gained the knowledge, skills, and tools to help others improve their self-awareness and make constructive use of personality differences. In addition, through the SRJC Distance Education Department, Nicole completed the Online Special Expertise training and received certification so that she meets the qualifications to teach online courses to reach SRJC's distance education students.

Diane Donnelly, Health Sciences, Fall 2021

Diane Donnelly's independent study leave advanced her knowledge of The National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (NLN-CNEA) process. This was accomplished by comparing SRJC's ADN student learning and end of program outcomes with NLN-CNEA Standards of Accreditation and associated quality indicators via self-directed study and attending multiple NLN-CNEA webinars to attain applicable knowledge. She prepared an ADN department national accreditation journey plan presentation for the Health Sciences ADN department to pursue national accreditation. Achieving this accreditation will enhance nursing education excellence and quality at SRJC with national recognition for improved applicant recruitment, expanding program grant funding and enhanced ADN postgraduate academic and employment opportunities.

Vincent Hamilton, Counseling, Fall 2021

SRJC Counselor Vincent Hamilton completed a sabbatical project that focused on the enhancement, modernization, and formalization of the SRJC Counseling Department Internship Program. This project focused on expansion of the current program outline with the creation of a mission statement as well as a clear connection to counseling/teaching resources, mentorship strategies, and professional collaboration within and beyond SRJC. Modernization of the internship program was achieved as with the establishment both internal and external electronic resources that officially publicize the program outside the college while providing structure and resources for counseling mentors and interns within the college. These accomplishments provide a strong framework for a counseling internship program that promotes excellence in our interns, our department, and our future faculty

Dolph Rehkop, World Languages, Spring 2021

Dolph Rehkop developed an online course shell called ASL RESOURCES where he provides 142 videos in which he models the vocabulary and grammar of American Sign Language (ASL); where ASL is a language that involves the use of the body in expressing ideas through use of sequentially ordered three-dimensional physical parameters known as handshape, location, movement, palm orientation and non-manual markers (facial expressions and body shifts). This resource collection is meant to support lecture-based instruction so that students can review instructional material outside of the classroom.

Solen Sanli Vasquez, Behavioral Sciences, Fall 2020 and Spring 2021

Solen Sanli Vasquez has enhanced her online courses using equity and humanizing principles. She has incorporated innovative technological tools into her courses to improve students' sense of belonging; connection to each other, the instructor, and the subject matter; and to support student success. She has also created an open-source digital history resource to teach Circassian exile from the Caucasus from a personal as well as academic perspective. Utilizing cutting-edge technological tools like GoogleEarth and methods like digital storytelling, this educational resource places this specific case study of forced migration into its socio-historical context and connects it to other cases of forced migration globally, exploring themes of race, immigration, belonging, home, memory, and minority rights.

Erin Sullivan, Behavioral Sciences, Fall 2020 and Spring 2021

Erin Sullivan revised and updated online course materials for her Psych 3: Human Sexuality course and created a fully online Psych 7: Theories of Personality course. This will benefit SRJC students by providing updated and free, open-access resources for Psych 3, encouraging enrollments and promoting equity. Creating a fully online Psych 7 course provides students with additional access to online course options.

Jerry Thao, Counseling, Spring 2021

Jerry Thao created an online course, Counseling 6: Introduction to Career Development, utilizing current online teaching strategies and up-to-date applications to enhance student learning experiences and effectiveness. Jerry attended online teaching training to develop further knowledge of current online teaching pedagogy and the latest technologies. This sabbatical project resulted in an online course with contextualized and interactive material created by the instructor.

Abigail Zoger, Biological Sciences, Fall 2020 and Fall 2021

Climate change used to be a topic about something that was going to happen to someone else, in some other place, in some distant time. Now, climate change is something that is happening right here, right now in Sonoma County. Abigail Zoger studied the literature on climate change education, communication and psychology. She then used this material to develop educational material for her courses and those of her colleagues. Finally, she evaluated a diversity of climate change activist organizations to help SRJC students find avenues for climate action.