



**Basic Skills Initiative / Hispanic
Serving Institution Committee**
October 20, 2011 Minutes

MEETING TYPE: Staff
 Product/Project
 Special

Starting Time: 2:00 p.m.
Ending Time: 3:30 p.m.
Place: MB-15

Tri-CHAIRS: Gary Sosa, Judy Wilson, Theresa Hogan-Egkan

ATTENDANCE: Gary Sosa, Judy Wilson, Theresa Hogan Egkan, Leanne Maunu, Steve McDonald, Richard Borden, Cindy Anfinson, Linda Morrow, Marty Furch, Gabriel Sanchez, Nimoli Madan, Jamie Spirito, Lynda Halttunen, Calvin One-Deer Gavin, Pamela McDonough, Lee Chen

GUEST: Jeanna Pina and Evelyn Lucero

ABSENT: Cuaron, Carrillo, Smith, Schoneman, Rocha, Faas, Meyers

RECORDER: Terri Wallace

Approval of September 15, 2011 Minutes

MSC: Halttunen, Furch

Coordinators' Updates

Gary Sosa reported that the Teaching and Learning Center counselors have been very busy this semester supporting students due to fast track classes. The tutors are busy with students preparing for mid-terms and fast track finals. The resume writing workshop last week was well attended by seven students. Another workshop on Interview Strategies is next Wednesday. Two weeks ago it was "Tutor Appreciation Week," however; it was celebrated a week late. There was a poster where many messages of thanks were posted by students. The tutors enjoyed having their work acknowledged and feeling appreciated.

Leanne Maunu reported that she is preparing for spring plenary and workshops. She is looking for diversified workshops to offer and is open to suggestions. The spring workshop schedule will be available online in January. Two field trips have been booked for spring including The Getty Museum on Friday February 24th and The Old Globe Theatre to see "A Room with a View" in April 2012.

Theresa Hogan Egkan reported that last Tuesday she made a presentation at the Governing Board Meeting on the success of the 2011 Summer Bridge Program. The presentation was very well received and the Governing Board members responded with several questions. Theresa also reported that the First Year Experience meeting was well attended by students that completed the 2011 Summer Bridge. Summer Bridge is under the primary program, called "First Year Experience". She learned that students are struggling and are afraid to talk to their professors about their work. Tere shared a story about a student who wanted to quit but remembered that President Deegan once spoke about how struggling students often don't continue after the first semester. In November, Theresa will have another Summer Bridge student meeting about breaking down barriers between professors and students and to remind the students of how much we care and want to help them succeed. Tere handed out a research report produced by Michael Large from Palomar's Research & Planning Department. The report was positive but we need to have more students and time before the trend can be evaluated. The report also contained student evaluations of the program. The plan for next year's Summer Bridge program is to increase to 60 students depending upon obtaining classrooms etc. Tere shared her idea to create a scholarship for Summer Bridge students and is looking to form a scholarship committee. Tere believes it would nice to have something specific for the Summer Bridge students.

Judy Wilson reported that she has been working on Learning Communities and the two PACT groups.

PACT provides on-going support and resources for faculty members to collaborate on student success issues in order to increase retention, persistence and completion. The faculty get together and identify a problem or question and research interventions for the problems. This is a scholarly attempt to take practical things that are of interest and work on solving them. The PACT groups are extending through next semester due to a late start and will present their findings in late April 2012. Both groups are looking into the subject of students who aren't self-motivated and researching programs that focus on student motivation. Judy reported that, having been exposed to "On Course", they are looking at programs that get students immersed in the active learning culture similar to Summer Bridge however, more focused on motivation. The students need help in this area to succeed in college. Next year SPFF FUNDS should be requested before the October deadline for PACT projects. Two additional "On Course" workshops are being offered in June and August 2012. Five developmental linked Learning Communities and three transfer level linked Learning Communities are scheduled for Fall 2012. Two of the transfer level Learning Communities involve Psychology with Library Technology and will be offered online. These class offerings will provide some comparison on how students do with online courses offered with the Learning Community link versus stand-alone Psychology online classes.

Early Alert

Lynda Halttunen shared handouts from Mira Costa College's Early Alert System. Mira Costa uses the SARS System and hopefully our Information Services Department can duplicate the system Mira Costa is using. The Early Alert System currently in place at Palomar College is in the form of an electronic letter and cover page notifying the student. Lynda is looking for members who want to take a field trip to Mira Costa College. There are a lot of issues and concerns that need to be worked out including; invasion of privacy if the letter isn't sent from the instructor, does the letter offer options or resources, how do you motivate a student to read and respond to the Early Alert Notification. The committee reached an agreement that they would explore the Mira Costa College Early Alert System and talk to Edward Pohlert, Director of Retention Services. The committee also agreed to do an Early Alert Pilot Program where we refer the students to visit the staff at the Escondido Teaching and Learning Center. Steve McDonald suggested that the committee take small steps such as visiting Mira Costa College and research various Early Alert programs. Cyndi Anfinson suggested that the committee define exactly what the definition of success is and agree on what they want from the Early Alert System. At the next monthly meeting the committee will break into groups to create the Palomar Early Alert System vision.

It was suggested that Calvin One Deer Gavin share information about the Gear Up Program next month.

The meeting ended at 3:30 p.m.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 17, 2011 from 2:00 p.m.to 3:30 p.m. in room MD-321.