Student Success and Equity Committee

November 2, 2015

LB 55

**Present:** **Jenni Abbott,** **Flerida Arias**, **Viengkham Champa,** **Jillian Daly,** **Elizabeth Hondoy**, **Curtis Martin**, **Shirley Miranda**, **Sofie Pettygrove**, **Martha Robles,** **Daniel Schmidt,** **Al Smith**, **Barbara St. Urbain,** **Brenda Thames, James Todd**, **Marla Uliana**, **Ashley Yu, Laura Manzo**

**Guests**: Lonita Cordova, Carol McKenzie, Jennifer Hamilton, Jacquelyn Forte, Michael Smedshammer

**Recorder:** Donna Yarnal

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| **Action Item: Motion** |

Who: Curtis Martin, Brenda Thames

What: Curtis moved to add 2 agenda items: Veterans/CLEP and the role of this committee and its initiatives and Brenda asked to table item #3.

* + Unanimous approval
  + Motion Carried

1. **Veterans/CLEP (Lonita Cordova, Carol McKenzie)**

MJC was recently awarded a Center of Excellence grant, 1 of 2 community colleges (out of 12) who were selected. Goal is to change the Military Credit Limit; CBE, credit based examination – similar to how the military allows testing out of some subjects. Use of Collegeboard (AP) classes/CLEP Exams. CLEP testing is free for Veteran’s, is offered by many California Community Colleges. Curtis inquired if a change such as this requires curriculum committee approval? Thorough discussion on this subject.

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| **Action Item** |

Who: Curtis Martin,

What: Will talk to Barbara Adams about the current 18 unit maximum for veterans.

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| **Action Item** |

Who: Curtis Martin, Lonita Cordova

What: Will meet to discuss this at more length before approaching faculty.

1. **Review of Meeting Notes – 10/19/15**

Minutes were posted on the website by Amanda Cannon, to be continued to next meeting.

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| **Action Item** |

Who: Donna Yarnal,

What: Will send an email with a link to the minutes.

1. **Student Equity Plan Draft Review and Presentation**

Flerida Arias presented a report on the 13-14 Student Equity Plan; highlighting success indicators/equity gaps; reviewed/discussed goals & activities to increase success rates/course completion. She spoke about the use of Common Ground (HSI Grant?) as a faculty professional development resource. Prof. Dev. Is also avail. On-line through the CORE program. Jenni Abbott referred to the Pathway programs; relevance to our current student population. Jennifer Hamilton encouraged joining her in an upcoming webinar on the subject of equity.

Flerida asked all contingency groups (campus-wide) to provide feedback on goals; specifically those that help close significant equity gaps/completion rates. Flerida asserts that changes both in the classroom and how we provide services campus wide will be necessary to make progress. Curtis Martin reiterated the importance of setting goals/establishing a timeline to ensure success with achieving the goals; focusing on specific goals. Lively discussion about ESL students and the unique challenges they face, specifically in FTIC courses. Fred shared her own experience as an ESL student and how kindness and acceptance shown to her by a former teacher in spite of language challenges; showing our students that we truly care shows a connection; some faculty shake hands with their students serving as a show of mutual respect. Discussed the benefit of having a wider variety of diverse faculty as another means to help students feel comfortable on campus; could also serve as a means towards students making a connection on campus. Curtis mentioned the “ME” first (math and English) initiative. Scheduling students for a full academic year vs. semester by semester was also discussed as a retention strategy.

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| **Action Item: Motion** |

Who: James Todd

What: Moved to schedule Focus Group Training Feb. 3, 4 and 5th

* + Unanimous approval
  + Motion Carried

Discussion about the bleak numbers of community college students who actually transfer is only 50,000.

James provided a hand-out of the proposed 2015-2016 Equity Budget; reviewed line items.

Discussion about future staff/faculty retreat options; faculty learning communities; men of color project; A2MEND conference. Jillian Daly suggested considering the faculty retreat as a more sustainable model to include follow-up. James shared that Columbia College has expressed the desire for a District retreat; similar degrees, similar curriculum posed.

1. **2015-16 Goals, Objectives and Outcomes**
   1. Student Success (Re)defined: Darla Cooper Institute Day Presentation Follow Up

<http://www.nocccd.edu/documents/ArticleAWhatStudentssaytheyNeed.pdf>

Curtis distributed a hand-out; shared concerns that we are not tracking the multiple 3SP projects. He would like to see the SSEC monitor the achievement of the goals of the Student Equity Plan. He posed the question regarding what specific projects are currently in progress.

Jillian spoke about the “launch pad” (referring to the faculty retreat) expressing concern about follow-up; communication; what is our structure? These long term, multi-year projects need to be nurtured. Should another Ad-Hoc Committee be formed? She suggested providing time and training to work on projects. What is the “what next?” Flerida asked if the SSEC should evaluate the progress of the 3SP Plan? Robust discussion about what was learned at the faculty retreat. James stated that the retreat served as an opportunity to identify our really big problems. Jillian reiterated her concern regarding tracking and communication; what is the structure, who is facilitating what? Are we cohesive and focused? Jenni suggested a point person; communicating to the college at large what is happening. Curtis referred to the Darla Cooper document as a manual regarding what to do.

Flerida spoke how the FTIC class should ideally start the process for students to make a connection on campus; feel engaged, and eventually hit on all of the core success indicators.

James asked if this committee is in favor of purchasing basic skills textbooks (i.e. English, Math.) Jillian shared that many other colleges are using Student Equity funds for textbooks.

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| **Action Item:** |

Who: James Todd, Flerida Arias, Jillian

What: Will continue to discuss the possible ‘experiment’ of purchasing basic skills textbooks for student to check-out.

1. **Achieving the Dream Follow Up:**

Capacity Triangle and Data Slide from Ken Gonzalez, ATD Data Coach

None

1. **Priority Registration**

James discussed the extension of the deadline.

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| **Action Item** |

Who: James Todd

What: Will send an email to Donna with the priority registration document to be forwarded to all Dean’s to submit to Flerida by noon on November 16 (which was later changed to noon on Fri., November 13th.

1. **Other**

Curtis would like the topic of how to organize/track Student Equity projects & activities as a future agenda item. Jillian suggested a 15 minute report on 3SP project progress as a standing agenda item.

**Future Agenda Items**

* Plan Updates (Standing Item)
* Report out from Data Team (Standing Item)
* Capacity Triangle/Data Slide (Ken Gonzales, ATD Data Coach)
* Achieving the Dream Follow Up:

**Next Meeting**: Nov. 16, 2015

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.