

Spring Update

Apr - Jun 2012

Spring is Here Again

Kimberlee Messina

Welcome to Spring Quarter! I was just reflecting that I have had the pleasure of serving as your Vice President of Instruction and Institutional Research for a year in May. That time has really flown by, and we have accomplished quite a bit in the past year. As a college community we can be very proud of our **successful reaffirmation of accreditation**. That is an achievement on its own, and particularly in these more challenging times where many good colleges are currently struggling with warnings, probation and other difficulties.

We have also made significant strides in updating our curriculum to meet ever changing state requirements, and have implemented many positive changes as a result of the state audits. We have successfully launched **two new transfer, or AA-T/AS-T degrees**, and have several more in the pipeline. These degrees will be highly beneficial to our transfer students in this increasingly competitive transfer environment.

Spring is a time for reflecting on the past year, and making new goals. I know that many of you have been assessing your course SLOs, and preparing to reflect on your program outcomes as well. These reflections will form the basis for Foothill College's **report to the accrediting commission in October, 2012**. We, and all other California Community Colleges, are expected to be proficient in our assessment of student learning outcomes by Fall, 2012.

Please let our office, and your SLO Coordinators, know if we can assist you in any your assessment process.

Wishing you a sunny and successful Spring Quarter! ■



Curriculum News

Transfer Degrees: Many of you have expressed interest in, and even begun work on, developing transfer degrees for your students. The CSUs just announced that they plan to **reduce admissions drastically beginning 2013** and there will be a tremendous advantage to students coming with a transfer degree. (In fact, they may be the **ONLY** students admitted.) Please help your students by moving forward with the transfer degree development as quickly as you possibly can. Bernie Day and Carolyn Holcroft are available to help.

General Education Convocation: Mark your calendars for the **morning of MAY 18!** Ken O'Donnell is coming to Foothill! Ken is the Associate Dean at the CSU Chancellor's Office and a national leader in general education reform. He'll be here to talk with us about General Ed- not only the Philosophy of GE and the LEAP initiative, but also about how the CSUs evaluate our applications when we ask them to articulate Foothill courses for CSU-Breadth GE credit. Many more details to follow, but please save the date! ■

Student Learning Outcomes Update

Gillian Schultz

Hello Faculty!!! As you heard last quarter, the ACCJC had some fairly strong recommendations for us related to the Learning Outcomes process, specifically at the program level. They would like to see the learning outcomes cycle at Foothill College in **100% compliance by October 2012**. Most of our programs had already done a great job defining their Program-Level Student Learning Outcomes (PL-SLOs) and many had assessments defined, but only a few had completed a cycle of assessment and reflection. To this end, Carolyn and I evaluated each program and contacted every degree and certificate program with specific suggestions for meeting the accreditation requirements. The response has been fantastic! **Ninety-nine percent of our programs have defined PL-SLOs**, defined assessment methods for those PL-SLOs and initiated a plan to complete the assessments and reflections Spring quarter. HOORAY!

Thank you so much for making this really easy. Now I will just provide a few reminders.

- Please complete the assessment for at least one PL-SLO by the end of Spring Quarter and enter your findings and reflections **no later than September 28** (though it would be great if they could get done sooner). Make sure that you not only reflect specifically on the outcome as related to your program but also as it relates to the Institutional Level Student Learning Outcomes (IL-SLOs)
- You still need to conduct your course-levels student learning outcomes (CL-SLOs) for courses that have not been assessed yet this year. If a course has already been assessed and reflected upon in the Fall or Winter Quarters, then you do not have to do another one if you choose not to.
- If you are teaching General Education courses in any subject, we are also required to carry out General Education Learning Outcomes (GELOs). This is easy to do as you will simply reflect within your CL-SLO reflections how your course outcomes are related to the GE outcomes.

Thanks very much for your help meeting our ACCJC requirements and even better, **improving teaching and learning** at Foothill! If you need help, clarification or anything related to our learning outcomes process, please do not hesitate to contact Gillian Schultz or Carolyn Holcroft. ■

Research Update

by Elaine Kuo

This spring, Foothill College is participating in the **Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE)**, a national survey that asks students about how they spend their time; the nature and quality of their interactions with faculty, staff and peers; what they've gained from their classes; and other aspects of their college experience. This project is part of the Center for Community College Student Engagement at The University of Texas at Austin. Foothill is one of the

272 colleges across the country participating in this initiative this year. We ask for faculty's help in administering these pencil-and-paper surveys in class to ensure a higher response rate. Randomly selected classes (about 58 sections) will be surveyed **between Monday, May 7 to Tuesday, May 15**. Faculty whose classes are selected for survey administration will be notified via email before April 25.

The survey has 58 questions and should take 45-50 minutes to complete. We know class time is valuable but we really encourage your participation in this effort in order to ensure enough students are sampled. The results will help Foothill establish a baseline regarding student engagement and inform ongoing improvement in student success and retention. For more information, go to www.ccsse.org. Additional questions may be directed to **Elaine Kuo at kuoelaine@fhda.edu or Leslye Noone at nooneleslye@fhda.edu**. ■

Completed Projects on the Research Website

Have you visited the newest section of the Foothill College Instruction & Institutional Research website? This page is an **archive of research projects** completed by our Institutional Researcher, Elaine Kuo. You can read studies and see data concerning: Basic Skills, Transfer, Financial Aid, Enrollment, high school participation rates and much more. All files are downloadable in PDF. Check it out at: <http://foothill.edu/staff/irs/FHresearch/requestcompleted.php>

Articulation & Honors Update by Bernie Day

Updates From Former Honors Students

Dana Mirsalis

After transferring to Brown University where she completed her bachelor's degree, Dana reports that she was recently accepted to Harvard graduate school.

Tim McElligott

After transferring to UCLA (and graduating), Tim completed graduate work and traveled extensively throughout Asia, India, even climbing Mount Everest. He's currently awaiting word on admission to MBA programs. Perhaps some faculty may recognize Tim from this photo?



Bay Area Community College Research Symposium

Congratulations to the ten Foothill honors students who were selected from a very competitive pool of nearly 200 applicants to present their research at the annual Bay Area Community College Honors Research Symposium. Please join us at UC Berkeley on Saturday April 28 as we cheer on the following honors students when they present their research:

Nefertiti Van der Riese- "Hate, Self-Hate and the Romantic Iconography of Race in Fiction"

An evaluation of racial "manichean" hierarchies in Edgar Allan Poe's "The Fall of the House of Usher."
Mentor: Scott Lankford

Robert Neumann- "Aftermath of a Spill"

A comparative investigation into each of the three major oil spills in U.S. history
Mentor: Scott Lankford

Judith Mildner and Asmahan Maayeh- "Marijuana: The Actual and Perceived Effects on College Students' Academic Performance"

A study comparing student beliefs about the effects of marijuana on academic performance to the actual effects.

Mentor: Benjamin Stefonik

Adam Rabago- "The Hero and the Tyrant : The Legends of Vespasian and Domitian"

An analysis of two important yet relatively unknown Roman emperors and their legacies in saving the Empire from economic and political ruin.

Mentor: Konnilyn Feig

Edgar Cook and Aida Gazalieva- "Self Perception and Writing Performance"

An examination of how self-perceptions and expectations play a significant role in student performance.

Mentor: Benjamin Stefonik

Dor Carpel-"The Holocaust in Ukraine: Up Close and Personal"

A first-hand account from a survivor of the Ukranian Holocaust that lends a more human understanding to this historical event.

Mentor: Konnilyn Feig

Helen Tang and Eden Alemayehu- "The Underestimated and Under Prosecuted"

An investigation of Nazi women who contributed to the events of the Holocaust, including a simulated exercise in which attendees play the role of jury.

Mentor: Konnilyn Feig

For more information, please contact Bernie Day
daybernie@foothill.edu

California Course identification System (C-ID)

Faculty interested in obtaining C-ID approval for their lower division major preparation courses should review the course descriptor at <http://www.c-id.net> and/or contact Bernie Day for additional information.

Articulation & Honors Update continued

New courses approved for CSU GE and IGETC

The following courses were added to our approved CSU and GE certification list:

New CSU GE Certification Courses

ANTH 1H	Physical Anthropology Honors	Area 1B
ANTH 1LH	Physical Anthropology Laboratory Honors	Area 3B
ART 4A	Drawing I	Area C1
ENGL 16	Introduction to Literature	Area C2
ENGL 24	Unmasking Comics: The Dawn of the Graphic Novel	Area C2
JAPN 35	Survey of Contemporary Japanese Culture	Area 3B
PHED 54	American Sport in Film	Area 3B
PSYC 7/SOC 7	Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences	Area B4
SOC 14	Sociology of Crime	Area D0
SOC 28	Sociology of Gender	Area D0, Area D4



New IGETC certification Courses

BTEC 51A	Cell Biology for Biotechnology	Area 5B
BTEC 51AL	Cell Biology Lab for Biotechnology	Area 5C
CHLD 1	Child Development: Prenatal to Early Childhood	Area 4G
CHLD 2	Child Development: Middle Childhood to Adolescence	Area 4G
ENGL 24	Unmasking Comics: The Dawn of the Graphic Novel	Area 3B
ENGL 1s	Integrated Composition and Reading	Area 1A
ENGL 1T	Integrated Composition and Reading	Area 1A
JAPN 35	Survey of Contemporary Japanese Culture	Area 3B
PSYC 7/SOC 7	Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences	Area 2A
SOC 14	Sociology of Crime	Area 4J
SOC 28	Sociology of Gender	Area 4D; Area 4J



The next opportunity to submit courses for CSU GE or IGETC approval is December 1, 2012.

New Articulation Agreement for Apprenticeship Students

Through a new articulation signed with the National Labor College (a WASC-accredited institution, located in Silver Spring, Maryland), our many apprenticeship students now have a streamlined transfer admission agreement to complete their bachelor degree online. The degrees offered include:

- **BS, Emergency Readiness,**
- **BA, Construction Management**
- **BA, Business Administration**
- **BA, Labor Studies**
- **BA, Labor Education**
- **BA, Labor Studies and Health**
- **BA, Union Leadership and Administration**
- **BA, Labor History**
- **BA, Political Economy of Labor.**