



FOOTHILL COLLEGE

## Basic Skills Workgroup

### Minutes

Date: March 8, 2011 Time: 2:30-4:00 p.m.

Location: Altos Room

#### Attending:

Lyliana Hernandez  
Debbie Lee

Darya Gilani (PaRC)  
Teresa Ong (PaRC)

Elaine Kuo

Phuong Lam

#### Guests:

Eloise Orrell

### Summary

Item	Notes
1. Announcements	Day on the Hill (4/27/11); ALD Summer Academy; PE follow-up; League presentation. See Discussion Detail.
2. ASCCC Basic Skills Institute	Teresa Ong reported on the conference. Topics reviewed include statewide assessment of basic skills; SB 1143; repeatability; free first-year program for basic skills students; student videos on campus websites. See Discussion Detail.
3. Basic Skills to Workforce	Debbie Lee brought up the issue of there currently being no pathway between vocational programs and basic skills courses. See Discussion Detail.
4. Benchmarks	See Discussion Detail.

### Discussion Detail

#### Item:

##### 1. Announcements

- Day on the Hill

Event is scheduled for April 27, 2011 from 9 am-1 pm and is no longer limited to just high school students. Last year out of the 419 attendees, 86% enrolled for at least 1.5 units for the summer term and 86% enrolled for an average of 10 units in Fall 2010.

- ALD Summer Academy

This program serves as a summer bridge for students who have taken a placement test by late August and have placed in English 100 and Math 230. Students are recruited to participate and program occurs a few weeks before the start of fall term. Students are encouraged to stay as a group and enroll in their English and Math course(s) together (English 100, Math My Way). There have been some issues regarding maintaining

(All agendas and minutes will be archived online through the President's Office.)

continuity from summer to fall registration (students don't always take advantage of priority registration). Data on program has been primarily qualitative.

- PE Follow-up  
Explanation to PE that funds could not be justified in spending it on personnel but could use monies to increase the numbers of tutors (paying their fees) but does not appear that PE will resubmit their application.
- Basic Skills Workgroup Funds  
Money needs to be allocated by June 30, 2011. If PE does not resubmit application, discussion about reallocating funding to other programs, such as ALD Summer Academy.
- League presentation  
Discussion regarding charts and figures from presentation (especially ones related to math). Data based on percentages, not actual numbers, which make it difficult to fully understand the persistence rate (how many people are we actually talking about?). Darya Gilani explained that the data for Math was obtained from the Dean and was included in a previous presentation to the Chancellor and given to the League when they did their site visit.

## **2. ASCCC Basic Skills Conference**

- Assessment tool  
Possible purchase of assessment tool
- SB 1143  
Legislation about tying funding based on completion rates (number of degrees and certificates awarded). May be more of an issue at smaller institutions where focus may be on ESL, non-credit coursework.
- Repeatability  
Preliminary data (currently includes ALL courses) suggests that if you take a course more than once, your chances of success decreases dramatically. ASCCC wants individual community colleges to collect their own data. Discussion about needing more parameters about what kind of data to collect. This issue will need to be revisited as more regulations are being put in place about repeatability and success rates.
- Free first year program  
Students taking basic skills at El Camino College in San Bernadino had first year paid for by donor. Students had to maintain a 2.0, take Math/English courses, conduct service hours in the community. Fall to fall persistence was 80% and the average GPA was 3.0. Opportunities for such a plan at Foothill?
- Student Videos  
Suggestion to make website more interactive for students. Concern about making it too slick but focus on information to help students navigate system. Discussion about working with Transfer and Workforce Workgroups.

## **3. Basic Skills to Workforce**

Currently there is no bridge between basic skills to workforce pathway. The issue of students repeating multiple times to try to complete their prerequisites can serve as a road block toward completion. Many students (such as in allied health) may wait until the last term to take their English and Math requirements. Consider looking at certificate programs that do not require degree-level Math (check with Counseling). A small scale example discussed was in Bio Health,

where if students cannot complete the requirements, there is an attempt to find another program that fits interest and ability. Concern with tracking students; must be clear that students are not forced on a particular track but focus on how to complete a desired track so that there can be success and completion.

#### **4. Benchmarks**

Discussion about developing goals and metrics based on District commitment: Improve basic skills. District will be using the ARCC report as a metric: Achieve 85% or highest score within the peer group. [Note: Foothill actually has the highest score within their peer group on the ARCC 2011 Draft Report, which came out in February 2011.] Further discussion to focus on identifying metrics related to ALD's STEP program, Math (TBD), and English's IRW sequence (beginning F12). Elaine Kuo will send out information regarding ARCC methodology about how Basic Skills completion rate was calculated. Goals and metrics need to part of the ESMP version 2.0 by April 20, 2011, as part of State of the College. Additional discussion regarding benchmarks will continue at next meeting on March 15, 2011.