

EMPC MEETING MINUTES: Thursday, April 12, 2012: DRAFT

Present: Jim Isbell, Aracely Mora, Alex Taber, Joyce Wagner, Roberta Tragarz, John Weispfenning, Jose Lazo

Absent: Caroline Durdella, Leah Freidenrich

Academic Program Review Discussion: ACE: Diana Babayan

Commendations

- Excellent program review: clear, detailed, and thoughtful. ACE students are fortunate to have such caring faculty.
- Extensive and thorough
- Well-written and thoughtful
- Very well written and easy to follow.

Questions/Comments

Alex asked Diana about the Fall 2009 Cohort persistence rate. Diana explained that most students do not complete the entire program, so the statistics derive from one group that was followed. Students who joined later are not included.

Joyce asked Diana about marketing and how schools market specifically for ESL. Diana said that this was not an issue until three or four years ago when immigration rates started going down. Also, smaller numbers of students are matriculating from high school into ACE. Because of a lack of funds, our program relies on word of mouth only. Diana would like to advertise in free papers that are available in markets, focusing on housewives.

John asked Diana about the assessment of the PSLO, "Communicate Clearly in Speaking and Writing" and if she thought about trying to develop a direct assessment, rather than using a questionnaire as a direct assessment might provide additional insight into specific areas that are challenging for students. Diana said that students do short recordings for speech assessment, and she is working on rubrics for that assessment.

John also asked Diana about the different types of ACE students and how they have recently changed. Diana said that her students immigrated from many different countries, some of them with foreign college degrees. They have a high ability to think critically and no fear of expressing their opinion. She also has young men who work the night shift and housewives who are in school while their children are in school.

Roberta asked about ACE placement and course sequencing. Diana said that few students place into the highest or lowest level. When writing sample scoring is used, they usually place into English. Most students place into 102

John asked if they learned anything from the program review process. Because Diana and Flo meet and talk all the time, they don't feel like they learned anything from the process. It

took 40 hours. Diana believes that the process needs to be shorter and easier, less labor intensive. She suggested that the committee think about going back to the “scale” and give intensive focus on areas that have low scores.

Psychology: Christine Umali Kopp

Commendation:

- A frank look at the program’s lack of resources.

Questions/Comments

Alex asked Christine how the department annually assesses new equipment, faculty and services. Christine said that they have informal discussions about equipment. They collect quantitative data when possible and anecdotal data. He also asked if the department administers surveys to collect data. Christine said that they ask Psych 219 students questions about what they have learned and they answer anonymously on Blackboard.

The department was not able to analyze course completion rates because the data was not “clean.” In response to the department’s desire to explore ways to obtain and analyze data from students who have graduated from SCC and transferred as Psychology majors, John told Christine that CalPASS (California Partnership for Achieving Student Success) may be available soon.

Roberta asked why the EBSCO Psychology and Behavioral Sciences database is insufficient. Christine said that they want PsychINFO because it only focuses on psychology. At this time, she did not know how much access to that database costs.

Someone asked if the inability to offer Psych 230 has affected Psychology majors in terms of program completion. Christine said that it hasn’t affected them too much. But students who want to work on behavior-oriented issues are limited since that class isn’t offered.

EMPC Update:

John shared the following documents:

1. Proposed Structure for the Educational Master Plan: 2012-2016
2. Strategic Issues: Goals and Actions

The committee suggested a revision of the fourth goal in order to create a broader outcome.

Next meeting: April 24, 2012

APR Discussions: English and Modern Languages