



Higher Education Consortium of Central California

COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE BOARD COMBINED MEETING

June 15, 2005

Approved Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ben Duran, Merced College
Bill Scroggins, Modesto Junior College
Jim Riggs, Columbia College
David Ashley, UC Merced
Steve Collins, Modesto Junior College
Della Condon, San Joaquin Delta College
David Dauwalder, CSU Stanislaus
John Spevak, Merced College
Marcella Rodgers, Executive Director

OTHERS PRESENT

Diana Demetrulias (representing CSU Stanislaus at 3:30)
Amy Faylor, Recorder

MINUTES

The May 21, 2005 minutes were approved as read.

I. Title V

Activity I

Rodgers reported a 56.2% course completion rate for students attending SI courses. There is still a challenge in relationship to student attendance at SI sessions.

Spevak reported that UC Merced has expressed interest in utilizing SI. Rodgers reported that UC San Diego has been successfully utilizing SI and has six full time coordinators.

The coordinators continue to focus on student attendance and issues related to institutionalization. Questions under discussion include: budget development to support SI following the grant, and courses to target for SI. There is also discussion regarding remediation and the effectiveness of SI.

Currently SI student leaders are paid for their services. Today's student cannot afford to participate as SI student leaders without incentive. Rodgers commented that one idea for institutionalization is to secure service clubs that will sponsor SI

sections. It is estimated that one section would cost \$2,200. Scroggins suggested coupling a one unit course with work experience. Work experience is accepted system-wide.

Activity II

It was noted that the student transfer challenges in the system are being mirrored in the grant.

Rodgers shared that the coordinators are working to improve coordination between the community college and university staff. Therefore, they plan to conduct a monthly meeting at their campus with CSU Coordinators, community college and university mentors. The purpose is to improve the student information sharing and coordination of student services in relationship to student transfer.

We will be piloting a STAMP Express event for the grant participants. STAMP Express will be an overnight stay during summer 2006 at CSU Stanislaus for community college participants who are following through on their contract. This recruitment and incentive event will be paid for by CSU Stanislaus Activity Two grant funds.

Student focus groups have been conducted with MJC and Merced College transfer students during their first semester at Stanislaus along with follow up telephone surveys. In addition, pre-transfer student focus groups have been conducted at the community colleges. In November 2005, a post-transfer student focus group will be conducted with the same group of students. The students who participated by phone basically indicated that transfer is an easy process; those who attended the sessions in person were more confused about transfer and had many questions. Scroggins suggested it is these students who are not accessing the system. They are first generation college students who are getting information from older siblings. In addition, those attending the student focus groups indicated they are getting different information from the Community College and CSU Stanislaus personnel regarding transfer. The students indicated they are being told by Stanislaus staff that they have taken unnecessary courses and should be transferring sooner.

Both MJC and Merced College are recruiting students in the program who are not transferring quickly. Rodgers stated that a course plan and consistent student follow-up regarding course plan progress are key. Coordinators are now focusing to make student responsible for their contract agreement and working on a revised information management process. Spevak noted that at the beginning of the grant we were focusing on workshops, now it is more like a case management system.

Coordinators are working to develop the mentoring component. Student participants have to understand that the mentoring is a program requirement.

They cannot pick and choose what components of the program in which to participate. Rodgers commented that there is competition for student program participation. There is no financial reward with our program and we have to communicate to students that the incentive is a smooth and efficient transfer.

It was agreed that the contract must be enforced. Students who are not holding up to their contractual obligations cannot continue with the program. Duran stated that the program needs to teach self-sufficiency, and not to create a system of dependency.

Condon mentioned that Delta College is launching a program with Stockton Unified that focuses on working with students and parents starting in the fifth grade to prepare them for college.

II. HECCC

Approval of Grids (Course to Course)- Grid was approved as submitted.

Budget and Dues- The submitted 2005-06 budget included an increase in clerical support and Executive Director salary was approved. It was noted that, as UC Merced will have student enrollment, Fall 2005 marks the first time they will be calculated into the percentage contribution. Estimated dues were calculated using enrollment projections. The actual dues will be calculated using fourth week census figures (student headcount) in the fall 2005 semester.

Committees and Committee Goals- Michael Torok, MJC, was added to the Physics Committee Roster. Carolyn Buck was added to the Articulation Committee Roster as the contact person until a new articulation officer is hired. Condon stated that Delta will have representation on the Evaluators Committee beginning in Fall 2005.

Evaluators Committee- The draft Evaluators Training Handbook was reviewed. The evaluators have expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to develop the regional handbook. After a number of communications with the California Community College Chancellors Office it appears that this is the only such training manual in the state.

Transfer Initiative- Rodgers reported to the Council that this project began as a grassroots effort among several members of the HECCC Executive Board. The goal of this new initiative would be to increase student transfer from the HECCC Community Colleges to UC Merced and CSU Stanislaus. Therefore, we are reviewing similar successful models, such as the Ford Foundation project that was implemented with UC Merced and Merced College to increase student transfer. During the planning meeting it will be important to develop a cost effective budget. A Board meeting has been scheduled in July to draft a proposal for Council review.

Condon stated that one reason that transfer rates are not increasing is that many students are opting for institutions that offer a short time to degree. These institutions have a more packaged product for working people. It was agreed that this is an important discussion to be having at the HECCC Board and Council level. Ashley commented that UC Merced would like to see HECCC utilized as a vehicle to increase student transfer. Duran agreed that achieving transfer is really the overarching goal of the consortium. Scroggins stated that HECCC must make a proclamation that the consortium has committed to making student transfer a priority.

The Executive Board goals were modified to include the following: Explore avenues to increase transfer from member community colleges to member universities.

Physics Project- Rodgers reported that the program has been filled to capacity, 25 high school/junior high school physics/physical science teachers. The first Summer Institute will be held at CSU Stanislaus June 27 – July 1, 2005. There will be a follow-up session in the fall, which will feature a wine and cheese event allowing the high school teachers an opportunity to network with University and College faculty regarding curriculum and articulation issues. A spring training day is also being planned.

Campus Reports

Columbia College- Will be hiring 13 new faculty. In February they hired a new Dean of Learning Support, Carolyn Buck. George Railey has transferred to MJC. They are preparing to close a deal on property in Angels Camp, and will offer courses in Oakdale in the Fall.

CSU Stanislaus- The first day for the new President, Ham Shrivani, will be July 4th. The University has hired a new Dean of Education, Mildred Murray-Ward. They are reopening the search for both Dean of Arts, Letters & Sciences, as well as Business. Will be selecting a new Associate Dean of Information Technology. The Science II building is under construction. Fundraising continues for a Research Science Building, and they are working with UC Merced on a joint doctorate.

Merced College- They have hired 17 new faculty members, and have broken ground on the new Los Banos Campus. The Learning Resources Center is open, and the Science building is being remodeled. Alan Grimsby, Vice President of Student Services, has retired. He will be working at UC Merced as a 60% person. His replacement will be announced at the June Board meeting. Summer enrollment figures are up 7-8%. They are cautiously optimistic regarding fall figures.

Delta College- Mary Ann Cox, Dean for Instruction, will be retiring. A new science building is under construction to replace the Cunningham building. They are preparing to break ground for the Tracy Center, which will include a Technology Center. They are looking for land in Lodi or Galt. The focus of the Microscopy Lab is shifting to training in nanotechnology.

Modesto Junior College- They are looking to hire 40 new faculty (11 of which are growth positions). Jim Williams has officially been named permanent Chancellor of the Yosemite District. The MJC presidential search will begin mid-fall. Enrollment will be difficult; they are trying to find funds to pay for growth. They are moving forward with Measure E projects. The auditorium will be renovated over two years. Escalating building costs are a factor.

UC Merced- Classes will begin September 5. The target of 1,000 students has been hit. Thirty percent of UC Merced students are from the Central Valley (866 freshmen, 150 transfers). There are 36-38 graduate students. It is a very exciting time for UC Merced.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Faylor
Recorder