



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, STANISLAUS

2002 Student Affairs Assessment Project

CAS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Educational Opportunity Program

Scope of Review

This assessment sought to review the effectiveness of the Educational Opportunity Program, EOP advising, management and staff support. We wanted to know how the students perceive EOP; their involvement with the program through its personnel and services, and what is and isn't working in our service design and delivery.

Mission

The mission of the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) is to serve as the primary vehicle for the CSU in increasing access, academic success, and retention, leading to graduation of California's educationally and economically disadvantaged students. The Education Opportunity Program within the division of Student Affairs provides a comprehensive array of services to support student success at CSU Stanislaus with graduation as the goal for all EOP Students.

Assessment Summary

I. Brief description of the assessment process.

The first task for the assessment team was to develop and adapt the CAS Assessment guidelines to fit the EOP program as it exists here at CSU, Stanislaus. The team used the Trio* and Other Educational Opportunity Programs CAS Standards and Guidelines. The team discussed the criteria and guidelines with respect to our program. The initial goal was to assess three specific areas: EOP Admissions, Academic Advising, and Evaluations.

II. Identified strengths and weaknesses.

Strengths:

- Based on the ratings of the self-assessment, the strength of EOP lies in diversity. Our program fosters an environment where similarities and differences among people are recognized and honored. The overall EOP student population reflects a broad cross-section of cultures. The goal of the EOP program is to provide admission and specific academic advising to first-generation college students.
- The delivery of the program mission is another strength.

Weaknesses:

- The component with the lowest ratings includes assessment and evaluation. Prior to this CAS project EOP had not conducted a program survey or evaluation for over 10 years. Together, the assessment team designed and distributed an EOP survey. This survey is designed to assess EOP effectiveness and usefulness of services provided to students at all levels of matriculation during the past three years.

Priorities for the Program

- Based on the assessment and evaluation standards, our first priority was to develop a formative, quantitative survey to measure the extent to which EOP students at CSU Stanislaus feel that the program has contributed to their retention and graduation (to identify factors that facilitate or obstruct said retention and graduation). The program is also developing specific data base information to track and compile statistical data within the department.
- The second priority for this department is currently under review. The goal is to develop and streamline the application process for students applying to EOP. Cooperative interaction with appropriate campus entities (e.g. Enrollment Services, First Year Programs, and Outreach) is vital.
- A third priority in discussion for the past two years is to conduct regular EOP orientations for all incoming EOP students.