

Department Chairs Committee Special Meeting

Chair: Dan Igou

Thursday, March 4, 2021 (1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

Attendees: Dan Igou, Mary Kjartanson, Mary Hart, Max Moore, Carmen Jay, Scott Moller, Francois Bereaud, Joe Young, Gina Bochicchio, Jordan Omens, Namphol Sinkaset, Dawn Di Marzo, Andy Lowe, Becca Bowers-Gentry, Pablo Martin, Dawn Diskin, Jessica McCambly, David Mehlhoff, Joe Young, Kandace Brandt, Nick Gehler, Monica Demcho,

Guests/presenters: Lisa Brewster, Kurt Hill, Daniel Miramontez, Channing Booth, Jessica Hernandez, Ali Gonzalez, Judy Patacsil, Dannika Dugan, Kim Roser-Kedward, Jenny King

Minutes

I. Call to order: Meeting was called to order at 1:03 with quorum.

II. Approval of Agenda: Approved unchanged (Bereaud/Jay)

III. Approval of Minutes: No minutes to approve. (Jay/Omens)

IV. New Business

A. Program Mapper

Lisa Brewster reviewed Program Mapper: purpose, benefits to students, and how Program Mapper functions.

- She noted that student feedback has been phenomenally positive.
- One of the main issues is to have the Program Mapper in place (if Miramar decides to adopt it) before Guided Pathways grant money ends
- I will take roughly nine months to input all the data
- I Miramar adopts, we have the contract in place and we'll be able to start setting up our maps
- There are ongoing conversations about how long it will take to input information and who will maintain the information after the initial input

At this time Guided Pathways Committee is seeking support for moving forward researching the Program Mapper for possible adoption by Miramar

- Senate President Murphy stated that the Academic Senate gave its approval for additional research, although there are questions about implementation and maintenance
- Chairs Committee agreed with additional research

B. Student Success Teams

Lisa Brewster gave a presentation about Interest Area (Student) Success Teams which are rolling out next week.

- Teams are cross disciplinary groups of educators who work to help our students succeed
- the outcomes are to analyze the interest area program of study student success data from our institutional research office and then develop a work plan with three or more strategies to help our students be successful.
- There are three semesters left and GPS is hoping to have all six interest areas participate in cohorts
 - Cohort one is launched to start mid- to late- April, cohort two is launched to start mid to probably beginning August and cohort three is designed to start in January.

- Because this is a pilot, there are one-time funds that can be used to pay people to develop these student success teams (ESUs)
- Teams will have one lead who's going to be a faculty Member up to five additional faculty members, a minimum of one as a counselor, up to two classified staff and one administrator
- The plan is to start onboarding students next fall into Interest Areas
- Brewster noted that Bakersfield College has seen impressive gains in retention and graduation rates for underrepresented students since adopting Program Mapper

Discussion followed.

C. Web Site Improvement: Course Sequences

Kurt Hill presented to the Committee a proposed update to how course sequences are displayed on the Miramar web site. Currently course sequences are shown as static pdf files, which have accessibility issues and are not mobile device friendly.

The proposed plan is to enter course sequences using in an html format, meaning they are interactive, accessible to a screen reader, and mobile friendly. This format provides flexibility for how sequences are displayed.

Questions were raised about who will be responsible for entering this information on the web site. Hill explained the decision of who will do so has not been made, but the suggestion is that faculty will be selected and trained to make changes.

Discussion followed in which concerns about workload, consistency of messaging, duplication of course sequences and Program Mapper, and sequencing for transfer were expressed. It was noted that the current proposal is an immediate update whereas Program Mapper hasn't been adopted yet, and the interactive sequences are superior to static pdf files. Miramontez noted that having course sequences available to students was an accreditation recommendation.

It was suggested that department chairs work collaboratively with counselling liaisons to ensure the most current information if available to be posted to the web site

Hill noted that progress on implementing the update is on hold as issues are discussed regarding who will enter the information initially and who will be responsible for maintaining course sequences. Igou and Murphy agreed to find out more about the hold up and try to move this process forward.

Jay requested that, since this is a workload issue, Igou speak with the VPI and find out if staff in the VPI's office is available to input and maintain sequencing information.

V. Announcements

- Igou reminded attendees, at the request of Student Health Services, that the COVID-19 vaccine was now available to educators.

VI. Adjournment 2:00