Santa Ana College: Student Success Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 24, 2014

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Student Success Philosophy
Work across Santa Ana College to insure that all courses, academic, and student support service needed are available to all students at critical junctures in their completions journey. This requires coordinated college wide efforts to strategically organize assets.

Attendees: Sara Lundquist, Co-Chair; Mary Huebsch, Co-Chair; Members – Beverly Birnbaum, Micki Bryant, Peggy Card-Govela, Karen Dennis, Mark Liang, Lynn Marecek, Sandy Morris, Karen Scott, and Martha Vargas.

Handouts: Agenda; minutes from February 27th meeting; Student Success Committee description; 2014 SAC Scorecard data; SAC Scorecard Student Success Goals Draft; Excelencia Latino College Completion handout; RP Group Student Support (RE)defined Action Guide; AAC CTE Student Success Spring/Fall 2014 handout; Student Success committee description and membership; SAC Participatory Governance Committee Year-End Assessment Form.

I. Welcome: Sara Lundquist & Mary Huebsch, Co-Chairs

II. Student Success Metrics at SAC & Tools

- Updated Scorecard: The 2014 SAC Scorecard is now available on the Chancellor’s Office website (CCCCO.edu) Committee members may also wish to review these data as well as other data available in Datamart (Chancellor’s Office) and DataQuest (K-12 data from the California Department of Education). On the scorecard, the category “Prepared” includes students who started a community college without the need for ESL, English or math preparation. “Unprepared” refers to students who started a community college with the need for ESL, English and/or math preparation. Sara has been interviewed recently by the OC Register regarding student success at SAC.

- Excelencia Profile: This new college completion tool for our segment shows SAC as the third largest Latino-enrolling and degree-awarding community college in California. While we can improve in both areas, we appear to be achieving equity according to these measures.

- Student Success Practices: RP Group Action Guide: Sara recommended that committee members review the practices recommended in this action guide. RP Group research has shown that community college students perceive six factors as critical to their success in college: successful students are directed, focused, nurtured, engaged, connected, and valued. This research has also shown that community college students perceive student support in terms of positive interactions with individuals, particularly teachers. Lynn suggested using the topic of Student Support for the fall convocation. We could also consider planning a SAC Student Success Conference with the Academic Senate or another large
group (50-75 people) and follow this with a convocation involving all faculty. Student organizations could also be involved in the Student Success Conference. Lynn noted that we know that the Student Success Act is happening, but we don’t know what that means for students and faculty. In particular, faculty need to be better informed and engaged in completion areas.

III. Student Success Activities

- Seats – English & math: There are more seats available in English and math classes than last fall for new and continuing students. Admissions is monitoring this.

- K-12, Re-design, Common Core: On May 30th, SAC and SAUSD math faculty will meet to collaborate on curriculum articulation. Topics will include the Common Core, Math Boot Camps, and one-day Math Jams to help students boost their math placement scores. A continuing problem is that many high school seniors do not take math. Lynn reported that the Math Department continues to meet twice a month to work on the course redesign for Algebra and Intermediate Algebra. Coursework and homework will be mostly done on computers with diagnostic assignments being generated from student results. Students cannot move forward in the course until they have attained mastery of the material. A concern is that the publisher gives students temporary access to course materials for three weeks before students are required to purchase the textbook. The Math Department wants to limit this access to one week to give students a strong start. The publisher has provided complimentary access to 200 textbooks and 200 codes for access to the ecourse for one year. SAC has also negotiated a lower price for students who purchase the book and code ($106 instead of $150). Martha noted that another issue affecting students is that their financial aid comes very late. We need to notify students of other resources that they can apply for in the spring so that they will be able to purchase textbooks at the beginning of the fall semester.

- 5/6 – N50 – 8 week: The most important determinant in college success is having student start ready for college work. SAC and SAUSD are collaborating on appropriate placement procedures. On May 6, SAC and SAUSD English faculty will discuss placing high school seniors with an A or B in the ERWD (Expository Reading & Writing Course) in English 101. This course is already used in the CSU placement process. The SAC English Department will continue to review writing samples for students who place at the N50 level. N50 will continue to be offered in an 8-week format at the beginning of the semester. Academic support for these students
(and all SAC students) is available in the Learning Center. On May 30th, SAC and SAUSD math faculty will meet to collaborate on curriculum articulation. Topics will include the Common Core, Math Boot Camps, and strategies to

- Status of Certificates/Degrees: An Early Glimpse: Our tracking ability for certificates is fully functional. We can search by certificate and by student. We are ready to award 2000 certificates that students have already earned. 6000-7000 certificates are at 80% completion. Certificates will be automatically awarded henceforth. Students will receive letters informing them that their certificates are being posted and that they should make an appointment to see a counselor if they are continuing at SAC. Students will also be informed if they are “Near Certificate Completers” and just missing one or more courses. Degree audit is also nearly complete and should be ready by 6/30. While we cannot auto award AA degrees due to financial aid consequences, we can inform students of their degree status and make other connections with students that will help them persist towards completion. Degree audit of both certificates and degrees will should positively impact our Scorecard. The recently purchased Electronic Ed Plan will also help with these efforts at completion.

- CTE Success Center/Launchboard: The Student Success effort has been expanded to include CTE programs. Sandy Morris explained that the CTE Success Center is a one-stop place for all needs of students in CTE programs. Robert Gallegos is the Counseling liaison. CTE faculty are making customized forms for ed plans and the Center staff are holding focus groups in CTE classrooms. CTE orientation sessions to SAC are now available.

IV. Required State/College Plan

- BSI – 10/14 (Mary Huebsch & Karen Dennis/Julia Vercelli) This year’s BSI report requests evidence of scaling up and institutionalizing of successful practices. Karen Dennis reported that SCE adjuncts will be trained in Reading Apprenticeship techniques. Also, counselors have been embedded in classrooms to assist Intermediate-level ESL students with completing education plans with the goal of entering credit programs.

- Student Success & Support Programs (SSSP) – 10/14 (Micki Bryant) This report will include new procedures that have been developed for student placement, orientation, and completion of abbreviated ed plans (up to 15 degree applicable units) and comprehensive ed plans. Early decision as well as grouping students for ed plan workshops will accomplish much of this support, but more counseling time will be needed to fully implement the new procedures. Students on probably can lose their priority registration status. Processes are being developed to help
students avoid falling behind and losing their priority. The new procedures are effective for fall 2014. New courses are available to assist students on probation and to help students select majors.

- Student Equity (SE) (Sara Lundquist) We need to determine if any group is being disproportionately impacted by the new incentivizing policies being put in place. Sara will author the Student Equity report and Micki will author the SSSP report.

V. Affiliated Group Reports/Action Items
- BSI
- SSSP (including Assessment)
- Transfer
- Scholarship: Peggy reported that 400 scholarships are being awarded this year will a total of 226 recipients. The amount being awarded is $262,000. The awards ceremony is May 16 in the Cook Gym.

VI. Committee Structure for 2104-15
- Student Success & Equity Committee proposed as new name for SSC
- 3 meetings per semester: Proposed Dates : (Thursday @ 3:00) Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov 13, Feb. 19 & April 16
- Confirm leadership/membership/appointments

VII. Committee Assessment
- Taking Stock & Looking Forward: the Committee will continue to focus on College-wide goals that have been drafted for completion, persistence, and course success. Committee members completed the SAC Participatory Governance Committee Year-End Assessment Forms.

Santa Ana College Mission Statement
The mission of Santa Ana College is to be a leader and partner in meeting the intellectual, cultural, technological, and workforce development needs of our diverse community. Santa Ana College provides access and equity in a dynamic learning environment that prepares students for transfer, careers, and lifelong intellectual pursuits in a global community.