

IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE
Basic Skills Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 03, 2017 12:50 p.m.
Room 2751

Mission: *The mission of the Basic Skills Committee for Imperial Valley College is to find ways to increase student success and retention rates in basic skills classes involving reading, writing, ESL, and math; to increase student skill levels in these areas so that students are better prepared for their academic and career goals; to provide training for IVC instructors so that they can better understand and teach basic skills students; and to generally support best practices to achieve these ends.*

| Attendees ✓ | | | Guest |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Norma Nuñez | Zhong Hu ✓ | Allyn Leon ✓ | Dr. Nick Akinkuoye |
| Sydney Rice ✓ | Nancy Lay ✓ | Gordon Bailey ✓ | |
| Audrey Morris ✓ | Russell Lavery ✓ | Ed Scheuerell ✓ | |
| Michael Heumann ✓ | Mardjan Shokoufi ✓ | Cynthia Spence | |
| Recorder: Martha Navarro | | | |

A. Call to Order – Audrey Morris

Audrey Morris called the meeting of the Imperial Valley College Basic Skills Committee to order at 12:58 p.m. on Tuesday, October 03, 2017.

B. Review and Approval of Minutes, May 30, 2017 and September 05, 2017

M/S/C Allyn Leon/Zhong Hu to approve the minutes of May 30, 2017 and September 05, 2017

C. Chair Updates

1. AB 705

- The members discussed the approval of the AB705 bill as well as some of their concerns on how will it impact students that need remedial courses. One of the concerns is that students who may test four levels below will only have one year to successfully finish a transfer level course. Audrey stated that AB 705 allows certain assessments as evidence of a need for remediation.

2. Funding for CAP Design Institute

- Audrey presented two proposals at the first Integrated Student Success Committee meeting. The first request was to fund three instructors to attend the CAP (California Acceleration Project) Design Institute. The request was approved. Audrey explained that the reason for attending and that is to understand and learn about setting up a co-requisite with an English 110 class. Audrey is currently working with the English department on this. They want to increase the number of students who begin with English 110, the first transfer level course.

3. Funding for CATESOL

- The second proposal presented to the Integrated committee was from Sydney Rice. She is requesting Basic Skills funds to attend the CATESOL conference. The request was approved.
- Audrey reminded members that any fund requests must be made to the Integrated Student Success Committee. The Basic Skills Committee cannot make funding decisions anymore; they can only recommend.

D. Action Items

1. Confirm vote for Math Tutors (Zhong Hu)

M/S/C Allyn Leon / Zhong Hu) to confirm the email vote approving to fund the Math tutors.

- Audrey notified members that email votes are documented.

E. Reports

1. Math Lab Survey (Zhong Hu)

- Zhong discussed the math lab survey results. The survey was conducted to find out why students are not attending the math lab and how can it be improved. To get a good representation, they surveyed students taking Math 61, 71 and 81. The classes varied in times, days of the week and instructor. Three classes of each course were selected. 2699 students were enrolled in math classes when the survey was conducted and 291 students took the survey. Zhong stated that lack of time was one of the reasons most students selected for not attending the Math Lab. Another reason for not attending was because students thought that they had to pay to use the Math Lab. Audrey suggested re-wording some of the survey questions.

2. Math Acceleration (Allyn Leon)

- Allyn has been working with a small group of people on a six-unit pre-statistic class. He stated that during the spring and summer, they saw several different acceleration models. This will allow students to take a pre-statistic class instead of a traditional algebra sequence and upon successful completion, they'll be able to take transfer level statistics. Allyn stated that several schools are doing this Allyn has also been working on a course outline draft. He discussed this during his department meeting. The department will meet again this coming Monday to follow up and discuss different variations and other details. Allyn hopes to reach a unified approach on how to implement it in order to make it fit in their general department better.
- There were concerns about a six-unit class having a co-requisite. This may be too much of a load for students. Allyn explained that the six unit pre-statistics class wouldn't have a co-requisite. The co-requisite would be a requirement taken with statistics. Students can either take a six-unit pre-statistic class or a statistic class with some help. Allyn stated that they haven't looked into the units but it may be a one or two-unit class to help student that are almost ready for statistics but still need a small amount of help with some of the background topics.

3. AB 705 – ESL (Sydney Rice)

- Sydney discussed how the original AB 705 bill was written and explained how equating basic skills with ESL has been a problem. It's not being recognized as two separate areas. Sydney and her colleagues have been working with legislative advocate, Jeff Frost of Catesol, and Senator Irwin's office to keep ESL students across the state from being penalized due to the bill's language.
- Sydney discussed the process of how ESL was finally recognized as a foreign language. The amended language now states that "ESL is distinct from remediation in English." Sydney explained that ESL is taught as a foreign language and not the same way they teach

basic skills. With this change, Sydney stated that they will be able to make the argument that students taking higher level ESL classes should fulfill the foreign language requirement in the CSU's, which requires foreign language credits.

- Sydney discussed the removal and additions of ESL levels. Level 1 and 2 will now be non-credit, levels 3, 4 and 5 will remain and levels 6 and 7 will be removed. Once levels 8 and 9 go away, levels 106 and 107 will be added to fill the gap while it continues to have a level of high language so students are ready to go into English 110. This fits within the timeline of the three years that students will be given to complete.
- Starting next fall, CSU's will not be offering remedial courses. Incoming students will need to be ready to start in English 110. Now that ESL being recognize as a foreign language, they hope to create ESL pathways.

F. Discussion

1. Response to Julie Bruno's request to oppose AB 705

- Audrey distributed a copy of a message sent from Erika Prasad of ASCCC to the Senate Presidents. The message states that a letter was sent to Governor Brown opposing the AB705 bill and asking him to veto the bill. The letter was sent on behalf of faculty. The letter addressed their concerns such as the implementation date as well as the language in the bill. Telling students that they must complete transfer level English and Math in one academic year may cause harm to students. Sydney stated that due to the ASCCC's letter to Governor Brown opposing AB-705, CATESOL is holding back on its petition to the governor to sign AB 705. The members concurred with the way the letter was written.
- Some of the members expressed their concerns on the timeframe of the bill's implementation and students that cannot complete in one year. Members suggested that if Colleges are prohibited to have students take pre-requisites, the reason(s) should be backed up with data.

2. Future role of the Basic Skills Committee

- Audrey stated that they will be meeting to discuss the role of Basic Skills. She stated that Although Basic Skills has to report to the Integrated Committee, they may also need to report to Academic Senate.

3. Mission Statement

- Audrey showed the committee the fourth draft of the mission statement, which was a joint effort. The members did not suggest any changes. announced that there is a fourth draft. She will email the draft to the members for any suggestions. Audrey pointed out that ESL will be included in the mission statement, since the fourth draft is broad enough.

G. For the Good of the Order

H. Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 7, 2017

I. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 1:53pm