

Administrative Response to Program Review

Education

Prepared by Scott Huff

Draft 07 September 2009

The Education Program Review was presented in the Spring of 2009 and included a thorough review of the Para-educator and Library Media certificate and degree programs, description of involvement in teacher preparation and teacher relicensing, and review of three sizable grants obtained in recent years. A wide range of diverse undertakings is handled by a small, but very dedicated, staff consisting of two full-time instructors and a grant-supported manager. Both the report and the presentation did a great job of informing the administration what you do and what your needs are.

In response to your identified issues and needs, we make the following *comments and observations*.

1. Paraeducator students need targeted support to be successful. Partnerships with K-12 schools, community groups, other PCC departments and other higher education institutions should be strengthened and expanded to provide ongoing funding to enable underserved populations to enter and succeed in the field of education. *Agreed, and we will support your efforts to develop and grow those partnerships (such as the one with Pacific University that may be back on track). If there are additional efforts for which you need the administration's help, let us know.*
2. The Library/Media Assistant Program needs a major revision in order to keep up with changes in information science and changing national certification standards. *We applaud and appreciate the effort now underway to revamp this program, updating it to meet the needs of the varied public and private institutions that require library support, doing so in recognition of evolving*

*national standards and expectations. We will continue to support this effort through the granting of release time in 2009-2010.*

3. Community college students who wish to become teachers need a specific point of contact for advisement and mentoring through the complex and varied pathways to eventual teacher licensure. Opportunities to engage these students in K-12 experiences and information is paramount to their future success.

*Agreed, and developing methods of identifying those students is critical to doing so. Once Banner 8 is installed in early 2010, we will explore the development of means for students to identify themselves as "pre-" students, e.g., pre-Education students, so they may be exposed to the "complex and varied pathways to ... teacher licensure" to which you refer. Your efforts to demystify, for students (and college administrators) the varied roads to licensure are appreciated.*

4. Careful analysis and planning for the bond-funded Education Building is integral to PCC providing focused, effective services to future and current educators at all levels. *Cascade's bond program planning will start soon, with the hiring of a campus bond manager this month and the selection of an architectural-engineering team by the end of December. A key part of the new academic building, as it is called for the time being, will be the Center for Careers in Education - intended to include Education's programs along with those of the Early Education and Family Studies program and whatever else is deemed appropriate to further career goals of those interested in teacher education.*

5. The challenges posed by the program and the wishes of the greater community cannot be met with only two full-time department faculty. *There's no question that another instructor position would aid the program in expanding and serving more students and we will include consideration of one as we revise the new initiative list in anticipation of the next round of hiring. We ask that you continue to explore grant funding opportunities, as you have done so successfully in the past, and inform us of programs toward which we should invest college resources in the hope of obtaining external support.*

Thank you for your efforts to create, maintain, improve, and expand high quality Para-Educator and Library Media certificates and degrees across the district. These serve the community well and we thank you for your continued efforts to make these programs something about which the college in general and you in particular can take great pride.