Program Review – Annual Program/Discipline Update

Administrative Response and Follow Up 2020-2021

Program/Discipline: Adult Basic Education

SAC Chair(s): Patty Hawkins and Esther Loanzon

SAC Administrative Liaison: Laura Sanders

Other Division Dean(s): Julie Kopet, Chris Rose, Andrew Roessler

Department Chair(s): Amy Boehnke, Patty Hawkins, Esther Loanzon,

and Laurel Spillum

Date: April 23, 2021

Summary

First and foremost, we deans for Adult Basic Education would like to acknowledge the time and effort that went into preparing this Annual Discipline Update (ADU) for PCC. This year is still a pilot year, and we all are learning the process together. Your approach to the data has uncovered potential directions for future work in Adult Basic Education as we as a district move forward with the one-college model and our YESS goals for reducing and eliminating disparate outcomes among student groups.

1. Strengths and successes of the program as evidenced by the data, analysis and reflection:

This report includes a highly impressive number of strengths and successes. These include

- Creating separate surveys for both students and faculty in the fall to determine the needs of both groups as well as possible approaches to meeting these needs.
- Ongoing trauma-informed and culturally responsive teaching training.
- Volunteer ABE instructor peer-to-peer partnerships to share teaching strategies and support.
- Informal, regular ABE Remote Gatherings for ABE staff and faculty to share ideas and support each other.
- District approach to course scheduling each term.
- Collaboration with ABS Navigators and Yes to College Coaches.
- Embedding ABE tutors in the entry level ABE courses during remote instruction.
- Creating ABE SAC D2L Brightspace and ABE Trauma-Informed, Culturally Responsive D2L Brightspace Repositories to share curricula, best practices, and other resources.

2. Areas of challenge or concern, if any:

The deans recognize that the global pandemic and its related physical health, mental/emotional health, technological, and financial challenges have impacted communities of color and low-income communities more harshly than more privileged communities. The SAC plan to survey students and instructors was a good one to identify best ways to serve students. We applaud the flexibility and creativity of Adult Basic Education instructors who demonstrated a level of commitment above and beyond what has been needed in the past to meet student needs.

3. Reflection on goals and resources:

The deans applaud the SAC's plans to continue implementing the successes detailed in Section 1 of this report (page 1), as well as the goals mentioned in the SAC's ADU report (pages 4 and 5).

- Plans to collaborate with the Math SAC to prepare students effectively for transition to college-level math.
- Plans to connect with Disability Services to explore assigning DS counselors to entry level Math and Reading/Writing courses.
- Plans to create a survey for students to explain the class modalities and times that best suit their needs.
- Plans to develop Virtual ABE Student Gatherings to promote a sense of belonging and connection.

4. Recommended next steps:

X Proceed as planned on program review schedule

5. Additional comments/questions:

As the division deans have worked closely with the ABE SAC as part of the ABE/ESOL On-Ramps YESS Work Group this year, we have seen the deep commitment ABE faculty and staff have to some of PCC's most marginalized students.

Many (all?) of the concerns and requests described in Sections 4 and 5 (pages 12-20) are likely to be addressed in the formal recommendations of the YESS Work Group, which will be submitted in May 2021.

However, if there are any concerns included in this report that are not addressed by the YESS Work Group recommendations, we invite SAC members to approach the newly selected Program Dean for College Success, Adult Basic Education, & English for Speakers of Other Languages as well as the Dean of Academic & Career Pathways for Academic Foundations, Essentials, & Gateways in the institutional reorganization (effective July 2021) for additional follow-up.

Summary

We want to thank the Adult Basic Education SAC for all your hard work. We know this past year has not been easy. We applied the work you have done to pivot to a remote environment. We believe that once the reorganization is complete, your new Program Dean and Academic and Career Pathways Dean will work together to provide support for the important role you play in student success at PCC.