

Mt. San Antonio College
DSP&S Advisory Committee Meeting
November 1, 2013, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Facilitators: Don Potter and Julie Bradley

Present: Debi Anderson, Maryann Benson, Petra Briones, Nathalie Calderon, Jill Cyhaniuk, Duneen Duffin, Lourdes Granda, Tyee Griffith, Jeanette Heitmann, Daney Hill, Judi Koorndyk, Susan Lacoff, Mercille Lush, Lia Marsh, Jose Pena for Livier Martinez, Diana Rios, Debbie Rivers, Melanie Straughan, Christine Sun, and Mitu Verma

Notetaker: Carole Stevens

Interpreters: Fern Gilbreath and Lalo Padillo

Meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m.

Welcome and introductions - Don

Review of Minutes from previous meeting

Motion to approve minutes: Daney Hill approved minutes as written.

Department Updates and Reports- Don

Don, along with High School Outreach, attended a Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness (GLAD) event. Normally we do not attend events outside of our district. However, this was an opportunity to connect with student who are Deaf and attend many different high schools in the LA/Riverside area.

DHH Services is continuing to grow and we now serve the largest signing Deaf population in CA community colleges. We are currently serving 91 students who require sign language interpreters or real time captioners in the classrooms. We are trying to establish a deaf center on campus. We are working with facilities to obtain space.

Department Updates - Julie

Mt. SAC is adding an additional building East of the Student Services building that will house our adaptive learning lab, DSPS faculty offices, alternate media production and one dedicated classroom and another classroom to share.

We currently have about 900 students that are out of compliance because their Student Education Contract hasn't been updated this academic school year. We need to have them updated by the start of the Fall term.

DSPS offers support classes to assist students in their mainstream courses. DSPS courses are non-transferrable and do not count towards their degree. We are in the process of obtaining approval for 3 new DSPS courses. One that is geared toward incoming freshman that is a DSPS orientation to college. The other two work with the growing DHH population mostly on language/English skills.

Mt. SAC is making progress on the zero tolerance for showing non captioned videos. When we are notified of noncompliance a letter gets sent to the professor with a copy to their Dean. There is a prioritization list of videos that need to be captioned. The College has \$200,000 set aside to try and get all the videos captioned to bring us into compliance. DSPS offers training classes to professors on how to caption their own materials.

Disability Celebration Month (DCM). Last year we cancelled our event due to lack of staffing. We couldn't put the effort that was needed into the event to make it a success. The Student Success Act took up a large amount of time that we would have otherwise put towards this event. We do not have the staffing to continue to put on DCM. It was suggested that we have clubs support DCM. We are looking to turn DCM into a community event. Last year was our 40th anniversary and we didn't have the manpower to support the event. It was suggested that if we didn't have the manpower for a whole month of events that maybe we could just concentration on one celebration day. We received positive feedback from the community agencies to participate in Mt. SAC's events. It was suggested to create an Ad HOC committee. Daney Hill, Jeanette Heitmann, Debbie Anderson, and Tye Griffith volunteered to participate in this committee. We are hoping to be able to include faculty and students as part of the committee.

DSPS puts on a Planning for College event that we will be hosting in October this year as part of the activities. This is a 2 hour evening event designed for incoming freshman and their parents to learn more about DSPS services on our campus.

Julie stated she is running a pilot of social networking with DHH students. Currently she has 92 students that she is communicating with. At this time we don't have the staffing to open it up to all of the DSPS students as the manpower to respond could be extremely time consuming. It was suggested to add a comment that it will only be checked on specific days and list days and times. Or add a statement that individual messages won't be responded to directly, but to use it to post messages and reminders to our students.

We are continuing to build an electronic case management system. We are doing this with an in-house person that we have re-assigned to create and build the system.

Round Table Discussion

Debbie Rivers, math professor asked if we send out progress reports or check status on the students that we approve and send accommodations for. She suggested that if we approved accommodations for a student that we should follow-up on how they are doing in the class.

On occasion professors are receiving accommodation forms well into the semester. Why do they receive them so late? Two different situations could have occurred: 1) During the first weeks of the semesters our counselors are impacted with student appointments and there is normally about a three week delay in completing all the requests for accommodations. 2) Students can request accommodations any time during the semester. There isn't a cut-off date on when they can request accommodations. If the student, requests the accommodations late during the semester we try to note on the accommodation of when the request was received.

In previous meetings it was suggested that we start a peer mentoring counseling program. Has anything happened? This could be very helpful for new incoming students to have someone guide them through the process and provide useful tips and information that a new student could benefit from in navigating our college. Answer: Unfortunately we have not been able to look at starting this as a project due to time constraints and lack of staffing to support and oversee the project.

We had three DSPS students attend an Associated Student Leadership Conference during the Fall semester. This became a very emotional learning process for all that attended the conference. It was a beneficial learning experience for all about inclusion of all students.

Heidi Lockhart mentioned that they were having a career day on campus. They are looking for more ways to get information about careers available for students.

Are life coaches allowed in the classrooms? Answer: Each case is looked at individually, but in most situations they are not allowed.

Are blind students allowed to use the tram? Answer: Unless the visually impaired student has another disability they would not qualify for tram service. They do not have a mobility limitation. However, each term we do offer visually impaired students acclamation to where their classes are located.

Chancellor Brice Harris will be on campus Monday, November 4 and he specifically asked to visit our office.

At the new DHH Center if we could get an ESL teacher to volunteer time at the center it would really benefit struggling DHH students. We are hoping the DHH Center will be able to have tutors to assist students. Currently, if a DHH student wants to attend a tutoring session on campus or meet individually with their professor to receive additional assistance they must provide 48 hours' notice for us to obtain an interpreter for the student. We really like the idea of having a study center within the DHH center.

Meeting adjourned: 10:29 a.m.

Next Meeting Scheduled for May 9, 2014, 8:30-10:30 a.m.