

## **Noncredit ESL Division Meeting**

**March 3, 2015 11:00 a.m. (day)/March 5, 2015 8:15 p.m. (evening)**

**Garfield Campus: MP203**

### **MINUTES**

**Present:** Division Chair: Deborah Robiglio

**Full-time Faculty:** Barbara Assadi, Megan Ernst, Karen Hamilton

**Morning:** Hannah An, Susanna Aramyan, Euphronia Awakuni, Betty Bond, Marilyn Burghdorf, Harriet Cohen, Carolyn Corrie, Caroline DePiro, Romina Der Bedrossian, Karen Deukmejian, Fanshen Di Giovanni, Edwin Fallahi, Rocio Fernandez-Presa, Carlos Gozalo, Katherine Grammer, Deborah Henneker, Clairette Ingels, Annette Kargodorian, Armineh Khanbabian, Ewa Lichwa, Kim MacDonald, Jill McDowell, Robert Mott, Margaret Richer, Mari Sahakian, Arusyak Sargsyan, Naomi Sato, Aaron Shryock, Kathryn Son, Marcia Walerstein Sibony, Charlene Worthley, Nune Yeganyan, Linda Young, Patricia Zayas

**Evening:** Marina Adamian, Robert Ballenger, Rodney Borr, Caroline DePiro, Inga Eguizarian, Dana Eusan, Natalie Keshishian, Mariam Krawchuk, Sandra Limina, Anahit Makhmuryan, Susanna Martirosyan, Alfred Romulo, Katherine Sarian, Valerie Silverio, Esthela Siegrist, Hasmik Tovmasian, Dennis Van Bremen, Larry Watts, Patricia Zayas, Edgardo Zayas

**Guests:** Margaret Mansour – Mental Health Counselor

### **Minutes Approved as Written**

**Welcome:** The Instructors were congratulated by the division chair for the successful winter and spring semesters. New instructors were introduced and welcomed.

**Summer and Fall Scheduling:** The summer 2015 assignment and fall 2015 assignment requests were distributed and need to be returned to the division office by the stated due date. Earlier deadlines for scheduling classes in noncredit are now required.

**Pathways Survey:** Results were shared from a pathways survey administered to all Noncredit ESL students during the fall semester. Students in Levels 0-2 ranked life skills English as their first goal for attending Noncredit ESL classes. Students in Levels 3-5 ranked academic English as their primary reason for attending Noncredit ESL classes. Both groups indicated that vocational English was their

second goal for attending Noncredit ESL classes. Additionally, a majority of students in Levels 0 through 4 indicated that they planned to continue their studies in Noncredit ESL the following semester.

### **Vision for ESL at GCC**

Dr. Viar is interested in developing a future plan, or vision, for ESL at GCC. A retreat for all instructors from Noncredit ESL and Credit ESL is scheduled for May 8, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Location to be determined. Flex and food will be provided. All instructors were strongly encouraged to attend.

**Verbal Assessment:** There will be a new verbal assessment for Levels 0, 1, 2, and 3 this semester. Trainings will be offered during the month of March. A major change to the assessment is that students will not be able to see the test questions in advance. Instructor feedback will be gathered following administration of the new verbal tests.

**Professional Development:** Megan Ernst gave information regarding upcoming professional development conferences and workshops. The details will be sent by email. Travel requests and pay for attendance at the division's annual retreat requires prior approval, one month in advance of the event.

**Certificate Ceremony:** The certificate ceremony will be held on Thursday, April 30 at 11 a.m. in the Community Room.

**AB86 Findings:** Findings from focus groups held during the fall semester were briefly shared. Students shared what they liked about the Noncredit ESL program, and they shared "pointers" for improvement. Detailed findings from the focus groups will be sent out via email.

**VESL Classes:** Information about current semester offerings was shared.

**CCCP/Bus tours/Orientation:** Margaret announced, that CCCP workshops will be held today, 11:00 to 12:00 and 6:00 to 7:00. A transfer-to-credit application workshop will be held on April 7 at 11:00 a.m. These workshops are for Level 4 and 5 students. The Verdugo bus tour will be on April 8. There will be two tours; 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 6:00-8:45 p.m. The teachers were encouraged to send their students.

**Senate:** No report.

**Guild:** Caroline DePiro announced that the Guild is working on getting every teacher registered as Guild members. Nominations are open; elections will be held in April.