

THE BSI NEWSLETTER

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Coordinator, Foundational Skills

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WELCOME TO THE FALL SEMESTER. THIS IS THE THIRD EDITION OF THE BSI NEWSLETTER. WITH THE GOAL BEING COMMUNICATION, EACH EDITION WILL CONTINUE TO BE FILLED WITH INFORMATION THAT WILL BE HELPFUL TO YOU.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE, PLEASE SEND YOUR ARTICLE TO ELLEN OPPENBERG AT elleno@glendale.edu.

Foundational Skills Committee

This governance committee was formed in April of 2008. The mission of this committee is to promote student learning in foundational skills in reading, writing, mathematics, and English as a Second Language, as well as learning skills which are necessary for students to succeed in college-level work. The committee will work to promote an integrated and coherent approach to offer foundational skills to maximize the benefit to students.

Current Members of the Committee:

Peter Stathis-Chair
Ellen Oppenberg
Kathy Flynn
Pat Zayas
Tatyana Bartholomew
Dana Nartea

Dr. Rick Perez
Dr. Mary Mirch
Jan Young
Monette Tiernan
Brenda Jones
Jeanette Stirdivant

Resources: Amir Nour, Ed Karpp, Terrence Yu



Advisory Action Group

Looking for interested Developmental Skills faculty (Math, English, ESL), CTE, College Services (counseling, career center, DSPS, learning center) and Non Credit to meet each month to design a new delivery model that ties together all entities: Student Services, Developmental Skills classes, Career Tech Ed, Non-Credit. The possibilities are endless but the timeline is short. Hopeful implementation of a new model will be Fall 2010.

Flex Credit to be offered. Contact Ellen Oppenberg of your interest.

First meeting to be held in September.

Volunteers in the Classroom

Last semester volunteers were recruited to assist in Developmental Writing classes. The individuals selected to take part in this pilot program were continuing college students who already completed their English requirement, grad students, and post grad students who possessed a Master's degree.

The project proved to be a success. Each instructor participating decided what role the volunteer would play in the class. Most chose to utilize this invaluable individual for helping those students who needed in-class tutoring, concepts broken down further and help getting started on an assignment.

Monthly, Ellen Oppenberg met with the volunteers to review best teaching practices. With the help of her assistant, Zepiour Shabani, students enrolled in classes where volunteers were present were closely monitored and successful outcomes recorded.

Thanks goes to the following instructors for piloting this idea: Chris Pasles, Lynn Woods, Angela Morales, Amanda Ackerman, David Duisberg.

Volunteers are again being recruited for this semester. If you are interested in acquiring one for any Developmental Skills class (ESL, English, Math), please contact Ellen Oppenberg at ext. 5529.



Monitoring Your Students This Semester- Just Ask

My position as Foundational Skills Coordinator is enhanced by my interest in learning styles and my roots as a Learning Specialist. As a result, last semester I continually monitored the students instructors felt were at risk. I would like to continue this intervention. Research shows that the timing of interventions is extremely important for all students who are being challenged by learning new concepts. This is especially true for students in developmental skills classes.

I invite and encourage you to keep communication lines open with me all semester long. Please make me aware of the students who are making little progress, quickly becoming at risk and I will be happy to contact that student offering them resources and assistance. Email me at elleno@glendale.edu or contact me at ext. 5529.

Fall Semester Events - Your Attendance Expected

For projects that have been approved for funding during 2009-10, there will be a mandatory budget workshop offered in September where you will receive your allocation and learn how to prepare a budget using proper coding. Date and time to be announced in a future email. Notification of your project's acceptance will be sent to project managers no later than August 24th.

During the semester, an open house will be held where all faculty and staff can learn about the 2009-10 funded Basic Skills projects taking place on this campus. Project managers will be contacted with details of this event by next month. Representation of all projects is expected with participation from 1 or more faculty directly involved in the project. Flex credit will be offered.

Reimbursement For Meeting/Conference Attendance

Last semester the Foundational Skills Committee generously decided to make funds available to faculty who attend a conference or meeting that will directly benefit the Foundational Skills student. Funds are limited. The faculty member's request must meet certain criteria and go through an approval process. A form is available from Ellen Oppenberg or Dana Nartea. After receiving the completed form and attachments, an approval process will ensue. If approved, the amount of reimbursement will be determined.

“Attitudes are contagious. Are yours worth catching?”

~Dennis and Wendy Mannering



Conferences You Don't Want to Miss

The Academic Senate for Community Colleges is planning BSI Regional Workshops for Fall 2009. The workshops are FREE.

Noncredit CB21 Meeting, Part 2

Friday, September 18, 2009, 10AM - 4PM
North Orange County CCD - Anaheim Campus
1830 West Romneya Drive, Anaheim, 92801

ATTENTION: Noncredit faculty, managers, and administrators actively involved in Noncredit Basic Skills (ABE and ASE), ESL, Math, English, and Reading!

We need your participation to finalize the CB21 rubrics to be used to code noncredit courses and track noncredit student progress in the areas of noncredit elementary and secondary basic skills (ABE and ASE) and ESL. These codes are used for noncredit accountability reports to the state and legislature so it is critical that we are able to more accurately demonstrate student success in noncredit!

In the May 2009 Noncredit CB21 meeting, noncredit faculty came together in the first stage to create noncredit rubrics describing the levels and progression through basic skills courses. The faculty used the credit rubrics as a reference and created rubrics appropriate to those levels of noncredit leading to transfer-to-college level courses.

In order to complete this work and correct the current MIS coding used to report noncredit success, we are asking you to help us with two things:

- Provide input on the draft rubrics through an online survey and
- Attend a meeting to finalize the rubrics in each discipline on Friday, September 18, at the North Orange County CCD, Anaheim Campus from 10 - 4 PM.

There will not be time for further revision or vetting of these rubrics in the noncredit field, so it is very important for each noncredit campus to give feedback online and/or make sure that someone from your college attends this meeting to represent each of the disciplines of noncredit basic skills, ESL, English, mathematics, and reading.

The draft rubrics and survey will be sent out later in August.

There is no registration fee associated with this meeting. **You will need to cover your travel** and we will provide lunch and a great professional development opportunity with your colleagues across the state.

We invite you to share this website with anyone else willing to provide feedback for the rubrics and/or attend the meeting. It is very important for each noncredit program to send representatives from the disciplines of ESL, English, mathematics, reading, ABE and ASE.

For more information contact:
Janet Fulks, Academic Senate Noncredit Committee Chair
jfulks@bakersfieldcollege.edu

CRITERIA FOR THE WORKSHOP MENTIONED BELOW

College teams of 5-10 faculty members (Adjunct and Full time from ESL, English, Math, CTE, Non-Credit, Student Support Services) are being requested per Workshop.

October 29 & 30, 2009 - Marriott Burbank Airport Hotel and Convention Center

(Focus: Maintaining and Enhancing Student Success in Difficult Times-Sustaining Low Cost Classroom Practices)

Go to <http://www.cccbsi.org/fall-2009-regional-meetings> for more information.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING - PLEASE LET ELLEN OPPENBERG KNOW IMMEDIATELY AS REGISTRATION HAS ALREADY BEGUN.

Spaces fill up quickly for these workshops because they are so outstanding.



Thank You Dana Nartea

Dana is the creative mastermind behind the Basic Skills web page for our college. While parts of it are still under construction, much can be found to enlighten you as a developmental skills instructor. It is definitely worth your time.

Here is the link: www.glendale.edu/bsiconnections/bsi.htm.