



**TITLE V COOPERATIVE GRANT
RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING WITH
ACTIVITY ONE AND TWO COORDINATORS**

**Approved Minutes
March 26, 2004
2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Present:

Robert Bauer, Merced College
Jacquelyn Forte, CSU Stanislaus
Kelvin Jasek-Rysdahl, CSU Stanislaus
Gary Lowe, CSU Stanislaus
Martha Robles, Modesto Junior College
Bill Scroggins, Modesto Junior College
Pam Upton, Modesto Junior College
Patrick Wall, Modesto Junior College
Ramsey Smith, Regional
Marcella Rodgers, Regional

Introductions

Those attending the meeting conducted self-introductions. Pat Wall, MJC, will serve as the Activity One Coordinator beginning September 2004. Rodgers thanked Wall for making time in his schedule to attend and invited him to attend any future meetings, as his time will allow. Rodgers also thanked Upton for securing a replacement in such a timely manner. Ramsey Smith, Regional Title V Research Student Assistant was introduced and welcomed.

Approval of November 3, 2003 minutes

Robert Bauer approved the November 3, 2003 minutes as read.

Review Activity Two Objectives and Performance Indicators

Rodgers suggested that it is time to arrange student focus groups for Activity I and possibly Activity II. For Activity II, the plan is to develop a focus group of students that have already transferred to CSU, Stanislaus, and groups at the junior colleges working on transferring. Kelvin suggested we need to develop a format which addresses the barriers students are facing when they work on transferring and also that we need to develop some form of incentive to bring students to the focus groups (food, T-shirts). Bill Scroggins, Martha Robles, and Robert Bauer discussed their plans to come up with their sample groups and control groups for Activity II. They decided to limit to students with less than 24 transfer level units and a declared goal to transfer to a CSU.

Establishment of ACCESS student database

It was suggested that the course work of the 50 student participants at each college along with a control group of 50 students be tracked using the CSU general education pattern of courses. The group identified participant characteristics that need to be explored: student has informed student goal of transfer, economically disadvantaged, goal of transfer to CSUS, filter for full-time student status, single parent (if possible to identify), minimum 10.5 units completed each semester, race/ethnicity, and limited to 24 transfer level units. We need to establish a common response scale.

Merced College representation sited approximately 40% of their student population is Hispanic and MJC Vice President of Instruction estimated 38% Hispanic student enrollment in Modesto.

The group discussed creating a data file that would be posted and updated on a shared file. Separate files will be maintained for each institution and merged as needed to create regional reports. Rodgers is in the process of securing a web design consultant to assist with the creation of the new web pages that will be posted at the HECCC website. Modesto Junior College and Merced College will conduct a test run in the next couple of weeks.

Lowe indicated that CSU Stanislaus will be able to provide transfer student follow up information to the two community colleges regarding their transfer student population.

CSU Stanislaus Student Focus Group

It was agreed that CSUS students participating in the student focus group should meet the following criteria: first time college student, transfer from MJC and Merced Colleges, low-income or Hispanic, second language learner, and a gender balance will be observed. One focus group will be conducted for each, transfer students from MJC and Merced College. The focus group activities, to be organized by Lowe, will be conducted prior to the end of the CSUS spring semester.

Through the focus groups we hope to identify what made a difference for students who successfully transferred from MJC and Merced College to CSU Stanislaus. We want to know how they perceived the student support services and their opinion of the academic climate. Rodgers will request the use of Title V funds for student refreshments during the focus group activity.

Explore potential coordination with Activity One research

Rodgers requested suggestions regarding possible research connections between the activity one and activity two research efforts.

Review Activity Two Timeline

The group reviewed both, the Activity One and Activity Two work plan, timeline, and measurable outcomes as they are outlined in the grant application.

Other: Focus Group

Jasek-Rysdahl and Upton discussed the low student attendance at SI sessions and possible solutions. Jasek-Rysdahl suggested a focus group of the SI

leaders at each campus to discuss problems and possible improvements. Upton will organize a follow up discussion on email. The SI leader focus groups at MJC will have to be conducted within the next two weeks due to their academic calendar.

Scroggins suggested the group meet once the assigned tasks are complete and ready for review. Rodgers indicated that in the meantime, a meeting of the Title V Regional Transfer Team was being scheduled.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcella Rodgers
Regional Title V Director