Basic Skills Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, October 22, 2013  
2:30-3:30 p.m.


Approval of Minutes: A correction to the September 24 minutes was made. The correction reads: “The matriculation process does not assess ESL at the non-credit level.” This replaces “lowest level.” A motion was made by O. McGinnis to approve the minutes with the change. Seconded by D. Lee. The minutes were approved.

End-of-Year-Budget: H. Kinde reported on the change that was made to the budget on the end-of-the-year report. The total amount remained the same; however, adjustments were made within the categories to reflect the correct expenditures.

Institutionalization of Basic Skills Projects: H. Kinde addressed the institutionalization of basic skills projects. Last year the committee questioned how to promote institutionalization and the Basic Skills Initiative. A united voice as an institution would strengthen existing projects and encourage development of additional projects that are focused on student success.

Current projects that have been developed to promote student success across the campus include: (a) Puente, (b) Tumaini, (c) linked courses, (d) accelerated learning, (e) supplemental instruction, (f) counseling, (f) student support services.

The suggestion was made to focus on those learning communities and enlarge their scope. This focus encompasses the recommendations made by the Student Success Task Force. The committee addressed the resources that the campus needs in order to accommodate current and future projects. Coordination needs to exist that brings project faculty and staff together in order to dialogue about successes and areas of concern. In order to streamline the projects for continuity, the committee suggested that there needs to be an organization of existing projects that focus on student success. Promotion of existing projects could be brought together and publicized on the website. A reporting system was suggested that brings together the results of the projects and the impact to student learning, and promoting a common voice that would allow for greater exposure to the college community and place projects in a position to apply for further funding was suggested.

A structure was discussed that would bring the learning communities together. An advisory committee could be formed, clerical support acquired, and lead faculty recruited to begin to address the need to institutionalize and coordinate student success efforts. The projects need stable and continuous funding and organizing in such a way could begin the process to acquire that funding.