

**Comment 1:**

Faculty tutors in the Foundations lab have been invaluable and essential for my students in my Physical Geography classes. For example, I allow students who have received a low grade in their assignments to resubmit them for a better grade. However, I ask them to meet with a tutor first so they can together review their assignments and insure that they will be able to resubmit a successful assignment. This has worked very well as students have a strong incentive to meet with the tutors and gain knowledge and skills by doing so. Our faculty tutors in the Foundations are friendly, knowledgeable, and very giving to our students. Losing them would definitely hurt my students in terms of learning outcomes and success rates.

**Comment 2:**

Hi, my name is Zara. I want to share why faculty tutoring is so important, especially for STEM students like myself. So many students decided to come to foothill including myself specifically for the exceptional stem services and teachers. I believe that cutting back faculty tutoring isn't just a one time thing, especially considering what's happening federally and so finding ways to preserve these resources instead of cutting back should be our top priority to remain an institution where students drive over an hour daily because they know that foothill has stem teachers and services to guarantee their success.

When I first considered getting tutoring, I spoke with some student tutors who admitted they struggled with helping students on advanced questions—especially in chemistry. That made me uncomfortable because, as a busy STEM student, I don't have time to second-guess the help I'm getting. Instead, I relied on office hours and faculty tutoring, and honestly, I wouldn't have actually felt confident in my ability to succeed in those classes without teachers who took the time to talk through my questions in depth and gave me the confidence that I could trust their explanations. That trust is critical in a subject where accuracy matters.

Faculty tutors also give our students consistency. Peer tutors change every semester, and while they're great for some things, they don't always have the experience to handle tougher material. Faculty tutors ensure students get reliable, high-quality support that aligns with course expectations.

If we want to maintain the reputation of our STEM services and keep students confident in them, we need to protect faculty tutoring. Students need to know they can rely on these resources, and keeping faculty tutors is key to making sure they do.

Thank you.

**Comment 3:**

Data is wonderful if you have it. But if there are gaps in the data, then it isn't really giving us all of the information we need to make informed, strategic models. I don't think we have ever had data around the two tutoring models and how they support English learners.

**Comment 4:**

Peer tutors are fantastic, but the expert knowledge and experience the faculty tutors provide in the WLC is invaluable to my ESL students.

**Comment 5:**

Students and faculty benefit from having a variety of tutoring formats, models, setting, modalities and so on. As such, we should retain the various types of tutoring settings. If it is necessary to reduce costs, we could perhaps explore a 1 for 1 (or some other ratio) approach, where there is the goal of having 1 student tutor for every faculty tutor. The result would most likely entail reducing faculty tutoring but rather the reduction in the number of faculty tutors. Reduction of the number of faculty may be optimal compared to the elimination of faculty tutoring altogether.

**Comment 6:**

Funding may fluctuate over time, and funds to have more robust staffing may return at some point in the future. Maintaining continuity can be a goal. If reduction is unavoidable, it can still be a goal to maintain the range of options, even in the staffing numbers are reduced.

**Comment 7:**

Faculty tutors have been teaching/tutoring for years. So, they understand and know how to explain the pitfalls and common problems students may have. This makes tutoring faster and more effective.

**Comment 8:**

I work in the Math Performance Success Program (MPS) and our students need support. The Foundations Lab (Garden) staffed with faculty tutors along with student tutors has been invaluable in helping our students succeed. The college needs to find a way to maintain a safe and comfortable space for our MPS students which is adequately staffed.

**Comment 9:**

I am a nontraditional and first-gen college and immigrant student who have NO good STEM background, I had almost a 10-year gap since I graduated HS, and where I attended my HS, we weren't taught what was being taught right now in the US curriculum, but does that mean that we can't achieve STEM? Yes WE can with the RIGHT SUPPORT from the RIGHT PEOPLE, and one of them are the FACULTY STEM CENTER TUTORING. They can address the blind spots that are not seen inside the classrooms. Being one of the students that utilizes STEM center, I slowly found confidence on my abilities despite of my background because I have found people who doesn't get tired trying to understand my questions even though they weren't that great, yet. ☐☐ And as I look back, without STEM center help (of course FOOTHILL resources overall), I don't think I would still be here achieving a once an impossible dream. Thank you for listening!

**Comment 10:**

I haven't been a student tutor, but I do like explaining things. As I've gotten into more advanced classes (most notably math), I've found explaining basic stuff actually gets harder, because I'm busy focusing on all the advanced stuff I have to be learning, & I forget why & how the basic stuff works.

Also agreed, only having data on MATH10 isn't very representative.

I don't know what the difference is between the foundations lab & stem center. So yeah, probably needs more advertising.

**Comment 11:**

Showing data for an entry level math class is crazy work. And these people want to be treated as professionals. Faculty tutors know how to teach and are professionals in their subject. Faculty tutors not only teach the subject but also give advice in life and about the field that you might be interested after finishing community college. If I wasn't for them, I wouldn't be in a Berkeley transfer program. When it comes to student tutors, having a good grade for a class doesn't guarantee mastery on it plus most of them do not know how to teach.

**Comment 12:**

I'm currently in my third year as a double major (Bio-chem) within the De Anza-Foothill system. As someone who has had to go through and take the full CALC, PHYS, BIOL, CHEM, and OCHEM series I really don't know where I would be without tutoring. I have had the pleasure of working with a couple of extremely helpful individuals that have helped to connect material learned within the classroom to studying and putting in the efforts outside. Getting so many

complex concepts down all within the same time frame felt nearly impossible without their assistance. Hoping we're able to continue this opportunity for students to come.

**Comment 13:**

I agree Zara. Foothill College, as a commuter institution, draws students primarily due to the comprehensive services we provide. Reducing or eliminating faculty tutoring would have a detrimental effect not only on our success and completion rates but also on our enrollment figures.