

**Foothill College Student Equity Workgroup (SEW)**  
**Meeting Minutes: 13 October 2015**

**Attendees:**

Hilda Fernandez, Micaela Agyare, Andrew LaManque, Bill Ziegenhorn, Adrienne Hypolite, Richard Mills, April Henderson, Sara Cooper, Katie Ha, Carolyn Holcroft, Kimberlee Messina, John Fox, Michelle Palma, Nazy Galoyan, Paul Starer, Liz Leiserson, Elaine Kuo, Roberto Sias

**Agenda Items:**

1. Minutes approval: 29 September 2015
2. Student Equity Conference: Sacramento
3. SEP Draft: Goals and Benchmarks (continued discussion)
4. Equity Proposal: Professional Development Opportunity
5. Block Grants: Need, Process, Rubric, Evaluation

**Discussion Details:**

1. **Minutes Review:** Andrew will correct people logged under each indicator. Minutes approved after this correction.
2. **Student Equity Conference:** Paul explained the key points from the conference he and Justin attended. Equity funding beginning in the Jan 2016 year will increase 70% from the 2014-2015 cycle: approximately \$750,000.  
Conference highlights:
  - funding cannot be used for buildings and portables
  - spending should directly tie to the student population being served per indicator
  - purchasing books directly for students is not allowed
  - book loan programs and vouchers are allowed
  - the spending should be connected with the activities and goals in the plan
  - Foster youth currently self-report their status, which may result in under-reporting.
  - Multiple-Measures: Paul explained that data presented at the conference concluded that since underrepresented populations are overrepresented in developmental education courses, developing multiple-measures for assessing student Math and English competencies can result in higher numbers of underrepresented students being placed at the college level. Andrew noted that SEW should help support piloting a multiple-measures project this winter or spring. Also, shortening curriculum pathways that are lengthy is key to improve retention.
3. **SEP Draft:** Andrew presented the SEP draft and reviewed the 3 focus groups selected for each indicator (disproportionately impacted), asking for feedback or questions before finalizing the populations identified as experiencing the most significant disproportionate impact.

4. **Basic Skills + ESL Indicator:** Andrew clarified that three focus groups will be selected for each of the Basic Skills Math/English/ ESL categories. The credit/ noncredit distinction was discussed and Paul moved to identify “women” as one of the focus groups for ESL. Hilda asked if we could focus on the disadvantaged populations that were not selected as part of the SEP indicator groups because of the group’s low numbers since they often experience the highest disproportionate impact. The workgroup supported the idea of designating research and/or survey tasks to learn more about these particular student groups. Bill highlighted the fact that there is a small group advantage when researching because of their small numbers. Elaine added that they can cross-match and break down ethnicity further for the unknown population.
5. **Income level:** Elaine explained that students interpret the income question differently, not knowing if to include themselves along with their family income. Still this is a broad measure that allows the college to focus on a large group of students for support.
6. **Equity Proposal:** Carolyn described a professional development proposal that would focus on developing equity-aligned classroom practices to help our SEP focus groups. The program helps instructors learn about methodologies that are known to work when teaching underrepresented student populations:
  - a. 8 day (2 week) instructor commitment
  - b. trainers would come to Foothill College
  - c. faculty could develop curriculum portfolios
  - d. faculty would present portfolios to Trustees
  - e. students participate
  - f. support throughout the academic year
  - g. cost for 20 faculty = approximately \$100,000
7. **Service Learning:** Hilda described the Reading Partners program and asked if this type of literacy partnership could be integrated into the SEP. Paul mentioned that there have been other service learning programs developed at Foothill College but the responsibility of keeping the program going falls on the shoulders on the interested faculty, staff, or administrator.
8. **SEP Clarification:** Adrienne asked for clarification on how the term “explore” was being used in the SEP. Does “explore” imply a direct support service for students or simply a reflection exercise without a direct contact with students? Andrew explained that the term was a bit vague and we should be as specific as possible when listing the SEP tasks.

Email from Carolyn Holcroft after the meeting:

There were a couple of additional matters I'd hoped to be able to bring to your attention, but we just didn't have time. I hate to wait until October 26 so I am sending this email to get them on your radar now:

1. Pat Hyland has worked her magic and has gotten Jose Antonio Vargas to agree to come facilitate a FHDA showing of his documentary, *White People*, with a panel discussion afterward. WOW! (If you have not yet seen it, stop reading this email and go watch it immediately. It's on MTV and you'll have to suffer through excruciating ads for Axe body products and various energy drinks of questionable safety, but it's worth it.) Jose can come during one of the following dates - **are we down, and if so, which date(s) do you think will work best? Please let me know-**
  1. December 1-4 (this is week 11 of Fall quarter)
  2. January 11-15 (week 2 of Winter quarter)

3. February 16-19 (week 7 of Winter quarter - and the 15th is a holiday)
2. I'm serving on the state academic senate's "Equity and Diversity Action Committee" (EDAC) again this year. We had an epic meeting in Oakland last Thursday evening and I'd wanted to give you a little report out today but we ran out of time. Much of it can wait until 10/26 but I do want to let you know that EDAC is responsible for the Academic Academy again this year, (this is the one several of us attended/presented at, last March). **This year the event will be in Sacramento on March 17, 18 and 19, and the theme will be "Overcoming Challenges to Equity Integration and Institutionalization."** Please mark this on your calendars, and if there is interest I am happy to write another block grant request for \$ for folks to attend. The EDAC chair has already asked for encore presentations of our breakout re: incorporating equity in program review, and the "Equity in Action - Implementing an Equity Framework" session. More details to come!
3. Pat Hyland is in charge of reconstituting the district's Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee. **If you're interested, let her know.** If you're faculty and would like to be the Foothill senate's official rep, let ME know, too. :)