

**Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Sociology Department Meeting
September 10, 2013**

MINUTES

Present: S. Allen, E. Cannon, M. Din, S. Dowden

Meeting began at: 1:05 p.m.

Fall Enrollment Update/Spring & Summer Scheduling

Enrollment has been strong in all department offerings this semester. Increased sections added to the fall schedule assisted in restoring classes that had been reduced over the past several years.

Additional sections for spring have been approved by the VPAA which includes Sociology offerings. The potential challenge to a back to back summer session schedule of two six week sessions was discussed. Faculty expressed concern that the online offerings for summer will not coincide with the start of the first six week session.

SLOs

S. Allen distributed a copy of the department's proposed new PLOs and SLOs. The department wishes to make a case for two instead of three PLOs/SLOs because the discipline focus is on theories and concepts which is reflected in the updated versions distributed at the meeting. The one exception for three SLOs will be SOCI 104 (Social Problems) which would retain its original SLO in addition to the two additional ones.

Note: Faculty need to submit proposed PLO/SLO changes to Compton Center colleagues for input and review.

Plan Builder

The department's rep, Sue Dowden, received a copy of the 2013-14 department plan which will need to be rolled over into the 2014-15 plan. The dean stressed the importance of maintaining current recommendations as well as any that have a budget attached to them in the new plan. She also stated that a smaller number of recommendations should be emphasized but not to exclude any from their last program review.

The dean will send out a reminder when she will need the revised plan submitted but is looking at the end of October as a deadline.

Curriculum

The department only has one course scheduled for course review, SOCI 108, and it already has been updated by S. Dowden. The course will be reviewed at the next DCC meeting.

S. Dowden stated the need to consider revisiting the Global Studies curriculum that had been developed a few years ago. Global Studies is already established at other community colleges and clearly is a field that students may wish to consider.

Success and Retention Rates

The faculty received copies of the spring 2013 division, department, course and individual faculty success and retention data distributed by the dean. S. Allen commented on the department's outstanding success and retention (82.3% success/91/6% retention) which reflects on the commitment of faculty in Sociology to student success. The department also had high success and retention rates for online courses: 79.1% success and 89.0% retention.

The dean complimented the department faculty for their leadership which has also resulted in the highest number of A.A. degrees awarded to students last year among all division programs.

Department Activities

S. Allen reported that the Sociology Club is participating in club rush this week. She also stated that J. Ortiz will be teaching a class next spring. Julieta is a former student of Stacey's and has been active as a co-advisor for the club. This summer, she was mentored by Stacey in preparation for her first teaching assignment.

Other

The discussion on mentorship continued with the department considering the importance of mentorship of adjuncts who serve in the program. E. Cannon gave support to the value of mentoring department adjuncts.

Also discussed was the possibility of bringing Sociology student alumni in contact with present students.

S. Dowden stated she will not pursue a hybrid course offering in the near future noting the challenges faced when students search online and assume the course is fully online only to discover that the course requires meeting on campus as well. Datatel is unable to show the notes that indicate if a course is a hybrid. Only the printed schedule has the notes. Sue referenced J. Suarez's hybrid experience this semester. Many students registered for his evening hybrid course dropped after discovering the course was not fully online.

Meeting adjourned at: 1:55 p.m.

cc: T. Fallo
F. Arce (electronic copy)
Sociology Department Faculty/Compton Center Faculty
CEC: R. Murray, I. Bunting
Division Counselor: Y. Cooper