GENERAL EDUCATION PLANNING GROUP

Agenda

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (EST)

Conference Call call-in number: 1 866 548 4711
When prompted, please enter pass code number 642611 followed by #

Welcome and Introductions                      Dave Harrison
Introduce Craig Tidwell                          Dave
Updates                                          Alison Morrison-Shetlar

   Math Faculty Workshops
   Chemistry Faculty Workshops

Agree on Next Course for Curriculum Alignment  All

SharePoint Site – ongoing collaboration          Dave

   www.curriculumalignment.ucf.edu

New/Other Business                               All

  • Statewide articulation initiatives

     ○ K-12 curriculum alignment with higher education

Next Steps & Wrap-up                             Alison
General Education Planning Group

Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2008
Time: 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Location: Via Conference Call

Planning Group Members

Brevard Community College
Central Florida Community College
Daytona Beach Community College
Lake-Sumter Community College
Seminole Community College
University of Central Florida
Valencia Community College

Members Participating: BCC – Don Astrab, DSC – Frank Lombardo & Mike Vitale, LSCC – Barbara Howard; SCC – Carol Hawkins; VCC – Kaye Walter; UCF – Alison Morrison-Shetlar, Dave Harrison, Mike Cooney, Craig Tidwell

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Dave welcomed everyone and provided a brief background on the purpose of the Planning Group for those new to the Group. In addition, he introduced Craig Tidwell, Special Programs Manager, Academic Initiatives for UCF Regional Campuses. He will take over the duties and responsibilities Mike Cooney has had since the Group was first created in May 2005.

Alison gave an overview on the work that has been accomplished by the math and chemistry faculty during their respective Workshops. She stated a lot has been accomplished during each of the Workshops and that the faculty is committed to working together to align specific course curriculum, which will ultimately benefit students transferring to UCF. Alison also asked everyone to review the timelines for both Math and Chemistry that were sent to them.

The Group agreed the next subject should be Physics due to its logical connection to the STEM courses currently being discussed (Chemistry and Mathematics). Everyone on the call will provide the name(s) of the person(s) they want to represent their respective institutions at a planning meeting that will be held late October or early November. As with Math and Chemistry, faculty at the Planning Meeting will be invited to a larger meeting that will take place during the first quarter of 2009. Frank asked that faculty discuss the value of hands-on labs versus similar instruction/learning that can be done on a computer in a virtual environment. Craig will follow-up directly with the faculty to agree on a date and time to hold the Planning Meeting.

Dave described a new web-based tool that gives faculty a platform on which to collaborate between the biannual meetings. The homepage for the site is www.curriculumalignment.ucf.edu. In addition, there are three separate homepages that can be accessed for Math, Chemistry and Digital Media. Each of these pages has a password-protected portion, allowing ongoing online collaboration to occur. Everyone on the call was given access to the password-protected areas so they could see the resources faculty has available to them. It was also agreed that faculty will be given training during the next two workshops so they can maximize the tools and resources on the sites.
Kaye stated she is serving on a statewide curriculum alignment project that will involve K-12, the community colleges and universities. She shared the work the six community colleges and UCF have been doing with her FDOE contact, who was impressed with our approach. The State may use our approach as a model. Kaye said the statewide curriculum alignment initiative was required by law, and that additional issues regarding the project were in Senate Bill 1908.

**Other topics discussed or that should be considered in the future:**

**Action items** – Mike asked all of the Chief Academic Officers (CAO) to take time and communicate with each of the faculty members that have participated in the Workshops and thank them and encourage them to continue this important work. Mike will forward all of the CAOs a list of the faculty from each of their institutions so they can follow up directly.

**Should high school teachers be invited to the next Math and Chemistry meetings?** The consensus was to wait until the groups have specific information to share that is both relevant and timely. One option may be to provide high school teachers with the learning outcomes developed by the Math faculty after the meeting in October.

**What other subjects should be addressed in the future?** English 1101 and 1102 and Humanities are additional courses/subjects that should be under consideration for future curriculum alignment discussions.

**How often should this Planning Group meet via conference call(s)?** It was agreed to have another conference call after the next two scheduled Workshops (Chemistry on 9/26, Math on 10/17) and the Physics Planning Meeting in late October or early November. The purpose will be to provide updates following the meetings and agree on any new next steps.

The conference call was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.