****Basic Skills Committee Meeting Minutes

**Thursday, February 7, 2019, 2:30-3:30 p.m., LR128**

Members Present: Barbara Salazar (chair),Tyler Okamoto (co-chair), Karleen Curlee, Raquel Flores-Olson, Maria Martinez, Alice Mecom, Hector Molina**,** Laura Ramirez, James Sass, Katie O’Brien, Lisa Chavez, Marie Eckstrom, Sergio Guzman, Vann Priest

Guests Present: Jose Lara, Michael Koger, Melba Castro, Tom Callinan, Ed Henderson, Julio Flores, Angela Sotelo, Bill Currington, Mike Slavich, Michelle Bean, Elizabeth Ramirez, Socorro Orozco

Members Absent:Henry Gee, Moises Mata, Student Ambassador

AB 705 Implementation (Task Force) Updates**:** Melba began the meeting by giving brief background on the updated draft of the math and English course and co-requisite placement models. There was some discussion of which students should take both math and English in the same semester. Lisa clarified that only students with the highest GPA or who are “highly decided” should take both math and English in the same semester. Melba indicated that the Math department faculty already had approved of the draft of the math placement model. On behalf of the English Department faculty, Marie approved the “draft” of the English placement model. Melba indicated that she will remove the “draft” qualifier on the document and move forward with these models as the finalized versions.

Next, Melba shared a draft of prospective questions to be included in the updated Guided Self-Placement (GSP) Tool and asked for input. Angela suggested that a section could be added for ELD students, and Melba agreed. Melba then went on to explain the process of matriculating, including the requirement for a first-time student to meet with a counselor prior to registering, which Sergio echoed, that also would support students in determining their appropriate placement. A suggestion was made to include links in the GSP tool that would explain the math pathways as well. Raquel also asked if a reading question could be added to identify students’ reading confidence. Thereafter, a small discussion about the college’s liability for students who opt to take a level below transfer took place. Dr. Ramirez mentioned that perhaps a student consent form would be needed. Melba continued to explain that transcripts would still be used to help place students, but would not be required. Angela explained that most high school students already provide transcripts and would likely continue to do so.

For our continuing students, there will be efforts made to communicate the forthcoming AB 705 changes including an update to the web site, placement presentations, placement labs, and educational plans workshops. Sergio asked for additional (counseling) staffing/funding to support students’ placement during peak times in summer. Angela asked for help training part-time faculty on AB 705 placement changes. Lisa acknowledged that data would be used to calculate peak times for increasing counselor availability. Melba also confirmed that resources would be used for training. An update on IT was given. So far, IT is working to make sure classes are correctly linked. Melba also asked about the geometry prerequisite clearance and Erin reported that math faculty was supportive of it.

Lisa then brought up the need for a stronger challenge process. After some discussion, it was decided that for right now, it would be left in the hands of counselors. Finally, Dr. Ramirez shared initial data from colleges already implementing AB705 which shows flat success rates, but higher throughput.

Announcement: Next scheduled committee meeting on March 7, 2019, from 2:30-3:30 p.m.

*B.S. and T.O.*