Basic Skills Steering Committee Meeting
Thursday, November 6, 2014  3:00pm – 5:00pm
SS Conference Room A&B

Meeting Minutes
Present: Maula Allen, Cheo Massion, Beth Patel, David Patterson, Becky Reetz, Rose Thompson, Cari Torres, Christina Leimer, Anna Pilloton

BSI-funded projects request (RFP)
Becky and Cheo will send out the revised and UDWC-approved RFP early next week. [Sara McKinnon forwarded this email to all faculty on 11/18/14 with the updated RFP (10/27/14 version) attached.]

FIG Update – Fall semester 2014
There are two FIGs currently in progress: one with counselors and science faculty around student internships, and another one looking at Credit ESL evening students. Reports from these FIGs will be forthcoming early in the new term.

Information provided on Marin Promise
Anna reported on a county-wide consortium, with Dr. Coon as one of three co-chairs for this effort, called Marin Promise. The group is examining best practices from K-12 through higher education. The model it is based on started in Cincinnati, OH. Problems have been identified and action teams have been assigned. Anna remarked that in the three years that the group has been meeting, there have already been some courageous conversations around equity, and the attitude is ‘action over talk’. Marin Promise is a version 2.0 of Marin Can – Closing the Gap.

Presentation and Discussion of Models of Acceleration
Maula presented two different documents: 1) Models of Acceleration in Developmental Education handout, and 2) Models of Acceleration in Developmental Education Report Tarrant County College District October 2013 (prepared by Hanover Research, Washington, D.C.). Aspects to consider: long sequences provide too many exit points, placement tests under-place students, pedagogy needs to respond to accelerated format, contextualization (especially with math programs/sequences), and course redesigns or restructuring.

Further discussion will follow on this topic with a research proposal forthcoming from Maula to collect, organize and summarize the existing and current data on acceleration, especially in math programs.

Another consideration from this discussion was that the 2015 Summer Bridge Program is expected to increase to a 100 students; this summer 2014 is was approximately 30 students. Math Jam is another program worth our attention.

Meeting Minutes: 12/4/14