

San Diego Miramar College
Academic Standards Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2010, 12:30 – 1:30
A-201

Present: Reginald Boyd; Kandice Brandt; Lisa Clarke; Bob Fritsch; Helen Houillion;
Duane Short

1) Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 12:37pm.

2) Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved by consensus.

3) Adjudication of student petitions

a) Waiver of Physical Education Activity requirements (petition reference # 470)

The committee reviewed the petition and medical documentation provided. After short discussion, the committee determined that the two Physical Education Activity requirements should be waived due to the student's medical condition.

Approved for both of the Physical Education Activity requirements

4) Old Business – none

a) Physical Education Activity graduation requirement

D. Short presented a list of Miramar ADJU and FIPT courses that appeared to include significant physical fitness activity but had not been approved to meet the district Physical Education Activity graduation requirement. The committee discussed the courses, the intent of the graduation requirement, and possible courses of action. After discussion, the committee finalized the list and directed D. Short to consult with the appropriate departments to suggest that the courses be submitted to the curriculum approval system to fulfill the Physical Education Activity requirement.

5) New Business

a) Use of additional mathematics placement assessments to clear Mathematics Competency requirement

D. Short reported that the district currently uses several types of assessments in order to determine mathematics placement for students. Although these assessment methods may result in students being placed in transfer-level mathematics courses, they do not meet the associate degree Mathematics

Competency requirement (i.e. MATH 96). The committee discussed this apparent discrepancy, the various kinds of assessments being used, the difference between “passing” scores and placement, and considerations surrounding the implementation of the assessments meeting Mathematics Competency. After discussion, the committee agreed that D. Short should bring a proposed change to the catalog requirement to the next meeting. The proposed change should be on the “new business item” form used at CIC and, if approved, would be forwarded to the Curriculum Committee for action.

The committee also discussed the older version of the mathematics placement test that was previously used in the district. Several committee members asserted that this test was a better indicator of student preparation and could also be used to place students with greater accuracy into different mathematics levels, including those beyond the first transfer level. Several committee members expressed an interest in revisiting the old test to see if it could be readopted for use, perhaps in a computerized version. D. Short stated that this topic would probably be appropriate for the Student Services Council or Basic Skills Initiative (BSI) to address. K. Brandt reported that district-wide BSI meetings were regularly held in the past. The meetings were very helpful in coordinating various district practices such as assessment testing. The committee agreed that it would be helpful for such meetings to be reinstated if possible.

6) Standing Reports

a) Evaluators – no report

b) Articulation Officer

D. Short provided a summary of SB1440 which was recently signed into law. He explained the ASCCC’s interpretation of the law and how it may affect the college’s degrees and transfer practices. Committee members raised several questions about the new law, how it might impact students, and how it would be implemented by both the CCC and CSU systems. The committee agreed that the ASCCC’s implementation plan for SB1440 (involving common statewide associate degrees) appeared very advantageous as long as all campuses of the CSU system agree to honor those degrees in lieu of their own major preparation requirements and impacted major admission criteria. Conversely, if the CSU system does not agree to the plan, then it appears clearly disadvantageous for CCC campuses to adopt the new statewide degrees. D. Short agreed to keep the committee apprised of new developments in this area.

7) Roundtable – no items

8) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45pm.