

DAS Board Report – January 13, 2009

As you know, faculty returned today from winter break and we participated in day long staff development activities. Students return tomorrow.

The morning staff development sessions were held at Laney with district-wide participation. The afternoon sessions were held at the colleges.

From 10:00-12:00 this morning, brief showcase presentations were provided. These presentations focused on—

Laney's Gateway to College Program, CalWorks Program, and the programs at their Fitness Center.

Berkeley City College focused on the Art department and community involvement, the PACE program, and the initiative to create a Teaching and Learning Center.

Merritt's showcased their Environmental Technology program and global warming, Microscopy, and what is happening with their Title III Grant.

As we move forward with the semester, we once again will focus on accreditation and the upcoming March visit. I suspect all four colleges will be focusing on gathering the necessary materials to create the "Evidence" room for the visiting team. Also we will have to begin to create a schedule of activities for the visiting teams to participate in at our colleges and the district office.

Toward the end of this month, several faculty members will be attending the State Senate's Accreditation Institute. One particular focus this year will be student learning outcomes.

Also, a number of us will be attending an accreditation retreat that the Chancellor is sponsoring on February 18 and 19.

Agenda item # this evening presents the December CIPD curriculum actions for which board approval is needed. As usual, I would like to highlight items in the packet.

Berkeley City College: You will note that BCC is expanding its foreign language offerings in the areas of Mandarin, Portuguese, and Spanish.

The business department is updating seven of the programs in the area of business. The updates are a response to recommendations from the Business Advisory Committee and the review process to begin creating the 2009-2011 college catalog. Also, the Global Studies Program requirements are being updated.

College of Alameda: Is increasing its offerings in the area of basic skill reading and writing, is adding a Population Genetics course, is making necessary changes to four Apparel Design courses, and is deactivating 11 courses in Computer Information Systems.

Laney College: is adding four ESL writing workshop courses.

Merritt College: is adding the four English writing workshop courses and is deactivating four other English courses.

So today is a fresh start of a new semester and look faculty forward to being fully engaged with our students and to help them be successful and to achieve their dreams.