

**IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE**  
**Basic Skills Committee**  
**Monday, October 27, 2014, 1:30 p.m.**  
**Room 2727**

**Mission:** The mission of the Basic Skills Committee for Imperial Valley College is to find ways to increase student success and retention rates in basic skills classes involving reading, writing, ESL, and math; to increase student skill levels in these areas so that students are better prepared for their academic and career goals; to provide training for IVC instructors so that they can better understand and teach basic skills students; and to generally support best practices to achieve these ends.

<b>Attendees</b> ✓	<b>Guests</b>
Allyn Leon ✓	Terry Norris
David Zielinski ✓	Caroline Bennett
Ed Scheuerell ✓	Trini Arguelles
Ed Wells	Michael Heumann
Jill Nelipovich ✓	Betsy Riehle
Kathleen Dorantes ✓	Tina Aguirre
Mardjan Shokoufi ✓	Mark Manahasee
Nancy Lay ✓	
Norma Nuñez	
Russell Lavery ✓	

**Recorder: Martha Navarro**

- A. Call to Order - Jill Nelipovich  
 Jill Nelipovich called the meeting of the Imperial Valley College Basic Skills Committee to order at 1:32 p.m. on Monday, October 27, 2014.
- B. Review and Approval of Minutes, September 22, 2014  
*M/S/C Allyn Leon /Russell Lavery to approve the minutes of September 22, 2014, as corrected*
- C. Reports
  1. CMC3 Workshop Report (Betsy Riehle & Mardjan Shokoufi)
    - Betsy thanked the Basic Skills Committee members for the approval of funds for her and Mardjan to attend the CMC3 math workshop at Saddleback college
    - One of the sessions Betsy attended at the CMC3 math workshop was on common assessment. She explained that it's computerized with random questions. It's tied to basic skills funds. One of the guest speakers at the workshop, who also serves on a sub-committee for math, assisted with the development of the content. Once composed and produced, it will be tested during spring 2015 or fall 2015.
    - Some positive/negative points Betsy discussed were:
      - ❖ You can only test in math four levels below transfer
      - ❖ Test is only for placement and schools will be in control with Math cut off levels
      - ❖ The content will be linked with future common core curriculum
    - Schools are not required to use the product but if they don't, they need to use their own money to purchase their own assessment tools. Mardjan went to different sessions to get ideas on how basic skills math is presented at different campuses and how they help their students.

Some campuses offer combination courses that can take a student from basic math to beginning

algebra in one semester. Other schools offer a three week intense math workshop in order for students to go into pre-algebra, since most have taken basic math.

- Mardjan also explained how the Learning Tutoring Center at Saddleback College works with students and how it's centralized to have a center with several sections of tutoring, including one for basic skills.
- Jill stated that there's \$539000 in student equity funds. The purpose of the funds is to focus on high risk groups such as, veteran students, basic skills students and foster youth groups.
- Jill stated that she's been speaking with Ted Ceasar about opening a veteran center, potentially through Ted Caesar's office. Activities have been submitted to the Student Equity committee and the allocation of the funds will be based on the committee. Funds must be spent by September 30, 2015 Jill stated that IVC will be applying for the next round of a TitleV grant and some of the monies can be used for building construction. She added that the funds will most likely be reduced from \$525,000 to a little over \$400,000. The allocation of the funds will be based on the committee. Funds must be spend by September 30, 2015.
- Jill spoke with Dr. Nick on this issue and suggested that more faculty need to be on the committee. Currently, it's only Gaylla Finnell and Jill.

## 2. Strengthening Student Success Conference Report (Jill Nelipovich)

- Jill briefly spoke about the Student Success conference she attended. Some of the sessions Jill attended focused on student learning outcomes, direct writing assessment and the possibility of Student Success Support Program, Student Equity and Basic Skills merging. Jill will have more information on this at the next Basic Skills meeting.
- Jill notified the Committee that the Reading Apprenticeship workshop, sponsored by 3csm, will be held on January 5, 2015, which is a service day for faculty. Jill will send out a survey to see how many faculty will be attending.

## 3. Regional Coordinator – Mark Manahasee

- Jill introduced Mark Manahasee, Basic Skills Regional Coordinator and ESL instructor at Mira Mar College in San Diego. Mark was invited to attend today's Basic Skills meeting to answer any questions or concerns the members may have. Mark will also be attending the Reading Apprenticeship workshop in January.
- The members asked Mark several questions on topics such as, standardized testing, common core and Learning Communities. Kathleen asked Mark if Learning Communities have been successful at Miramar College. Mark replied that it was one of the first things they cut during budget cuts.
- In regards to common core, Mark stated that the common core curriculum is already set up for college readiness in community colleges, keeping in mind that 70%-80% of first time college students enroll in a community college than a university. Not too many are familiarized with common core. Mark stated that he's organized a couple of workshops in San Diego bridging community colleges, universities and high schools professors to explain how to align what they do.
- Mark explained a 35 unit sequence for ESL students starting on the credit side. Students start at a low level, which is a five unit course and eventually ending at a one level below English Reading and Writing course. Once completed, they'll be able to go to college level reading and writing.
- Mark also discussed an accelerated ESL course they would like to pilot in fall 2015. They will be creating a 9 unit ESL course and have the highest level ESL students take the course. The course will be tied to a tutorial program. The idea is to eliminate the number of exit points and give ESL students the opportunity to go into a higher level English class that's one level below transfer. Mark stated that only few colleges are doing the pilot.
- Jill asked Mark if he has any information on AB86 requiring ESL credit courses two levels below transfer switch to non-credit and if it will be mandated statewide and what legislators will be requiring. She added that there's been some discussion and rumors on campus about this

subject. Mark responded that it has not been mandated yet.

D. Update on Previous Discussion Items

E. New Discussion

1. ESL 5 Bridge Program (Kathleen Dorantes)

- Kathleen is proposing to offer a non-credit ESL 5 course as a bridge program to English 008. Kathleen is part of an English dialog group formed by ESL and English faculty and agree that ESL 005 students that go into English 8 have low success rates. The idea is to give students the opportunity to go to English 8 or 9.
- ESL 5 would be a six week course, six hours per day. The course will include academic writing, academic reading, academic listening and study skills.
- If approved, Kathleen would like to offer the course during the upcoming winter and summer sessions. Each class would consist of 20 students. Kathleen is estimating \$20,000 to offer two courses, which is \$10,000 per course.
- Kathleen stated that she would like to offer incentives in order for students to attend but she can only provide books to the students. Jill notified Kathleen and the members that this request will be placed as an action item on the next meeting. Jill will get the data to look at past rates for these particular students that go from ESL 5 to English 8

F. Action Items

1. Travel for Scaling Successful Programs and Practices – Mira Costa College (Alex Voldman)  
***M/S/C Allyn Leon / Mardjan Shokoufi to approve the amount of \$185 for Alex Voldman to attend the Scaling Successful Program and Practices Program workshop on February 20, 2015.***
2. CALade conference (November 1) (Jill Nelipovich)  
***M/S/C Mardjan Shokoufi/ Allyn Leon to approve the funding of four people in the amount of \$1500 to attend the CalADE conference in Anaheim on November 1, 2014.***
3. Basic Skills Fund Request Bridge to Success  
(Mardjan Shokoufi, Norma Nunez, Alex Cozzani, Oscar Hernandez)  
***M/S/C Allyn Leon/Kathleen Dorantes to approve the amount of \$6150 for the Bridge to Success workshop.***

G. Other

H. Next Meeting: November 17, 2014

I. Adjournment

***M/S/C Allyn Leon / Mardjan Shokoufi to adjourn the Basic Skills Meeting at 2:44p.m.***