



IN SUPPORT

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES AND PLANNING

Happy Holidays!

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PARTNERING WITH OUR COMMUNITY TO SERVE STUDENTS

col-lab-o-rate: to work jointly with others, especially in an intellectual endeavor.

The office of Instructional Services and Planning (ISP) has lived the word “collaborate” to its fullest throughout the fall 2011 semester. Recently ISP has led an effort between SDCCD and representatives from San Diego Unified Schools, County Office of Education and the San Diego Workforce Partnership to investigate the implementation of contextualized basic skills learning within Career Technical Education curriculum. Collaborations between college and Continuing Education online faculty led to the highly popular “Synchronicity” and “Access This!” workshops series providing techniques for instructors on how to enhance interaction with their online students. Well established collaborations continue to flourish such as the Personal Finance Management Program every new soldier completes at military sites nationwide. This program was created through a partnership between Military Education, City College and Army Emergency Relief (AER). By working in concert with our community allies, ISP is able to monitor the pulse of the San Diego region and remain at the forefront of labor market trends, innovations in online learning, and career pathway development.

Taking Care of Soldiers

November 2011 marks the ninth year that San Diego Community College District’s Military and Government Education Program and San Diego City College have partnered with Army Emergency Relief (AER) to provide personal financial management education to new soldiers while they are in their Advanced Individual Training. In November 2002, SDCCD Military Education began teaching a 16-hour pilot course at Fort Bliss, Texas. This program became so successful it expanded throughout the Army for both officer and enlisted service members. As of October 2011, over 400,000 soldiers have participated in this course of instruction.

AER, recognizing a shortfall in personal finance management knowledge among the Army’s new soldiers, requested through SDCCD Military Education that City College develop a finance curriculum and establish a training program at 16 different sites across the U.S.



San Diego City College Military Instructor, James Wilkerson discusses Savings and Investments to a class of Army Soldiers at Fort Jackson, South Carolina



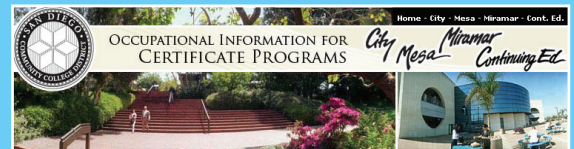
Mrs. Holly Petraeus (upper right), Director of Servicemembers Affairs, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau visits a classroom at Fort Jackson, SC

Funding and oversight of the program is provided by Army Emergency Relief (AER) headquartered in Alexandria, VA. AER is a private nonprofit organization with the sole mission of helping soldiers and their dependents. This robust partnership continues today. In November 2011, Director of Servicemembers Affairs at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Mrs. Holly Petraeus, wife of General David Petraeus, current CIA Director, attended the courses in Fort Jackson, S.C. noting the importance of this unique public-private partnership and the superb educational value of the program.

It Takes a Village: Collaboration between Colleges and Departments

Recently, the Department of Education established new student aid rules to help ensure that students understand their financial obligations and the expected outcomes from their college education. More specifically, the regulation required all colleges and universities to provide students with pertinent information including the program’s career options, estimated time for completion, estimated cost per semester, as well as graduation and job placement rates. The Curriculum and Instructional Services team in collaboration with District Student Services supported the Colleges and Continuing Education with the implementation of this major reporting obligation—Student Disclosure. The teams worked together and developed comprehensive website “Occupational Information for Certificate Programs.”

<http://occinfo.sdccd.edu/>



Occupational Information for Certificate Programs website

Faculty Panel of Online Instructors Demonstrate “Synchronicity”

SDCCD Online Learning Pathways Fall 2011 Online Faculty Mentors, Aileen Gum (City) Joe Safdie (Mesa), Fred Garces (Miramar) and Jane Newcomb (Continuing Education) planned two workshops in Fall 2011: Synchronicity and Access This!

Joe Safdie led the Synchronicity workshop for both an in-person audience in the Mesa College LRC and to a remote audience simultaneously via CCCConfer on Friday, October 28. A panel of online instructors (pictured) each took turns demonstrating how they use technology to interact with their online students in real-time. Don Barrie (Geology, Mesa) demonstrated using Blackboard Learn 9.1 Chat with online Geology students for exam review. Karen Owen (Computer Business Technology, Mesa) and Karen McDonald (Business Information Technology, CE), web design instructors, demonstrated online teaching using synchronous communication tools and cloud file sharing. Kris Clark (Drama, Mesa) demonstrated using Blackboard Collaborate with groups of students to discuss films they are studying. Claudia Tornsaufer (Music, CE) demonstrated how she uses CCCConfer to teach music appreciation synchronously and to conduct digital field trips. City College was the venue for Access This! on Friday, November 4. Among the presenters were Kathy Hornik (Access Technology Specialist, CE) and Erika Higginbotham (Access Technology Specialist, Mesa), Darius Spearman (Black Studies, City), Tamara Smith (History, City), Fred Garces (Chemistry, Miramar) who demonstrated techniques and best practices for making online courses accessible.



Panelists Kris Clark, Don Barrie, Joe Safdie, Karen McDonald, Karen Owen, Claudia Tornsaufer

Contextualizing Basic Skills within CTE

In summer 2011, the SB 70 Community Collaborative Advisory Council was tasked with developing a common theme by which each member could channel their efforts. The SDCCD Community Collaborative provides strategic leadership from education and industry for the planning, coordination and oversight of the SB 70 CTE projects awarded to the San Diego Community College Collaborative. With careful consideration, the Advisory Council members selected a “hot topic” theme that bridges nearly all facets of education – the contextualization of basic skills development.

For years, Career-Technical faculty have observed an alarming increase in the numbers of academically underprepared students enrolled in their courses. Many students struggle in their course work without a fundamental mastery of written communication and mathematical principles. One approach that has been proven effective in strengthening student proficiency is the contextualization of basic skills within CTE curriculum. Several benefits are derived by integrating basic skills within a CTE context. “Contextual learning in a CTE discipline that excites a student provides relevance to the basic skills being taught,” explains Collaborative member Steve Pinning, Senior Director CTE/ROP for San Diego County Office of Education. Miramar’s Biotechnology Professor Sandy Slivka adds that “contextualizing basic math and language communication skills into career technical education is important for two reasons. First is to see the importance of general education in the workplace. The second is to be able to apply these basic skills in workplace situations.”



Professor Sandra Slivka with CTE students

International Education

International Education (IE) advances learning and scholarship, builds respect among different peoples, and enhances constructive leadership in a global community. Colleges and universities have responded to the question of how to educate a global citizenry by making the development of global awareness outcomes part of their core mission. Considering the stakes involved with respect to our national security, the interrelation between the global and local economies, and understanding our increasingly diverse society, we cannot afford to inadequately prepare our students to face this ever-changing landscape.

The San Diego Community College District is in a prime position to be a leader in IE and a supporter of internationalization efforts. This year, Dr. Leticia López will serve as the District International Education Coordinator (IEC). A District IEC provides the necessary support for campus internationalization efforts, helps steer each college toward its study abroad goals and programming, and also gauges institutional growth and effectiveness as each campus works toward promoting global awareness and study abroad opportunities.

Some outcomes reached this semester include establishing an International Education Week in November at City, Mesa, and Miramar. The festivities and educational opportunities included a vendors’ fair that showcased organizations such as the United Nations Association of San Diego, the U.S. Department of State, and various study abroad programs from across the county. Collaborations with agencies such as the Gilman and Fulbright Scholarship Programs, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Hispanic National Internship Programs (HNIP) are also well underway.

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