Essential Skills Committee  2/11/15 Minutes:

Present: Diana Bonilla, Yoon Yun, Debby Wong, Maria Renteria, Curt Riesberg, Joshua Zhou (guest), Patricia Chow, Ludi Villegas-Vidal, Marie Zaiens, Debby Wong, Carlos Gonzalez (guest), Darlene Montes

Meeting called to order at 3:00p.m.

Minutes of 12/10/14 reviewed, corrections noted, motion to approve (Yoon Yun) with corrections, approved and recorded.

BSI Funding Proposals:

- Bonilla: food for LINKS conference day, discussed
- Zaiens: (alerted committee to a pending proposal) re: L.A. Times for reading classes
- Riesberg: (alerted committee to a pending proposal) re: tuition reimbursement for faculty and for Staff, such as tutors, for professional development
- Wong: discussed development of progression rate tracking tools, statistical, could be used to assist in BSI counseling, advising, staffing, etc.
- Montes: question of computer purchases?

Note: a discussion ensued regarding the possible availability of money from Equity initiative and possible uses such as research, and to perhaps pick up where it leaves off and/or enhance BSI initiatives such as Tutoring

Spring Into Spring: 85-ish attendees. Zaiens noted that the student panel was a particularly strong aspect. Zaiens also noted the need for faculty-driven activities and a Call for Proposals for next time around.

Carlos Gonzalez noted, re. SSSP, the need for an informal change of cultural attitude and action towards a perspective of proactive customer service

Equity: no formal report. Montes will provide more information at a later date. The possibility of an equity researcher was noted, and that new hires should get 10-100 budget approval.

SSSP: there has been an extension to Dec. 31st for spending. Focus will be Orientation, Assessment, and Counseling. Questions: limited counseling? What about transfer center?
Riesberg suggested that an outreach to the high schools might include a “crash course” prior to assessment. … because

A need for Early Assessment has been identified.

A discussion again ensued regarding the stalled embedded tutor program for Math 105-112.

Might there be a new STEM I.A. position …? Wong and others noted that we need a stronger I.A. in the Learning Center… one who subscribes to the proactive customer service practices touted earlier in the meeting by Gonzalez.

SSSP calls for a Student Success Center with Instructional Assistants and a Director. Currently at Mission, no Director position is filled. Riesberg pointed out that he was a .6 director of the Success Center at West, which is not perfect but is better than nothing.

Patricia Chow noted that 25% of Mission students are Full Time.

Noted: several upcoming 3CSN professional development opportunities, including the Tutor Expo on the 20th of March.

Also noted upcoming professional development activities: Basic Skills Initiative Leadership Institute (BSILI) June 14-19 at Lake Arrowhead, and the Acceleration in Developmental Education Conference June 24-26 in Costa Mesa.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25p.m.