

## Meeting with General Education faculty (12/2/2009)

### Summary of faculty suggestions

#### How can we encourage students to complete their Gen Ed courses in order to complete the requirements for their degree or diploma?

- Collaboration between Gen Ed & Technical Programs  
*examples:*
  - Learning communities with Gen Ed and Technical Programs
  - Gen Ed courses scheduled for tech area cohorts
  - Promote value of General Education courses to students and program faculty
  - Communication between Gen Ed and program faculty
  - Recommendation of specific Gen Ed courses to accompany specific programs
  
- Structuring of offerings  
*examples:*
  - Schedule classes to meet students' needs (example – could be offering something in program areas during a short session which may need to be done over 16 weeks or vice versa to match up better with Gen Ed courses content)
  - Look at format of courses (traditional vs. hybrid/internet) to see if we're meeting students' needs
  - Based on number of developmental classes, require certain number of developmental classes along with program specific courses
  
- Rewards for students  
*examples:*
  - Transportation – intercampus shuttle or resources to help with transportation
  - Pay students for staying in class (Example: Tuition gets cheaper as students progress in their programs)
  - Give priority registration for having taking blocks of Gen Ed courses
  
- Advising/Counseling (can use for both questions)  
*examples:*
  - Better educate CCCC advisors about which courses transfer
  - Ask advisors for a list of "safe" courses for undecided students to help them choose courses that will transfer and satisfy degree requirements.
  - Hire more counselors/advisors to assist with academic/career advising. Re-purpose the Outreach/Recruitment team since we don't need as much outreach but have great needs in Counseling/Advising?
  - Hold a designated "Advising Day" as we did when on the quarter system
  - More advising throughout career
  - Promote a more balanced schedule; put this in catalog
  - Training for instructor-advisors; reach out to part-time faculty perhaps with an FAQ sheet; use "CCCC Today" to disseminate information; classroom tips and bits about advising

## How can we retain students in Gen Ed courses without decreasing our standards?

- Classroom structure/involvement

*examples:*

- Get to know students individually – and their individual needs.
- Have students set individual goals at beginning of class
- Set up study groups; get students involved more in classes
- Use short videos that can be replayed for those who miss class

- Consideration of requirements

*examples:*

- Restrict 200 levels of program courses until all Gen Ed classes have been taken required orientations
- Require placement test at beginning (orientation)
- Require students to take all development courses before taking Gen Ed courses
- Require *Accuplacer* before Gen Ed courses
- Require courses in secession with a time-limit

- Course issues

*examples:*

- Outline course sequences to provide structure; students do not do “options”
- Consistency across sections of courses
- Smaller classes so that more individual time could be spent with students
- Invoke penalties for not showing up first day of class (drop them and let another student in)
- Replicate ESL methods in developmental courses so that students don’t have to spend as long moving up.