Minutes of the UDC HSI Considerations & Closing the Achievement Gap Workgroup Meeting
February 27, 2015
3:00-4:30 pm, Kendall 103

Present: Teresita Curiel, Michelle Morris, Cecilia Santillan-Robles, Jordan Walsh
Absent: Pedro Douglas, Vince Ornelas, Chela Patterson, Paul Zingg

1. Dream Center proposal (Jordan)

Based on conversations with students and campus partners, as well as retention and achievement gap data, Jordan expressed concern that the university isn’t adequately prepared to serve the needs of the increasingly Latino/Hispanic student population. After meeting with LEAD students and staff and faculty allies, Jordan proposed that a DREAM Center be established on campus in order to serve the unique needs of undocumented students. Citing the stigma associated with their status, a Center could provide resources/advising related to financial aid, mental health issues, academic advising, and DACA application assistance, as well as a textbook lending library, and emergency grants for basic living expenses. It is imperative that students have a space safe to learn about their rights, access resources and develop community in order to ensure their success. UC Davis and Berkeley DREAM Centers were discussed and CSU campuses with DREAM Centers will be explored. The Chico State DREAM Team as well as CLIC and campus and community partners could serve in an advisory role for what is envisioned as a predominantly student run space. Financial support towards release time for a part-time faculty advisor would be welcomed. Jordan will investigate space options in the BMU through the Associated Students and will report to the general UDC at an upcoming meeting this spring. UDC members in attendance expressed their support for this proposal.

2. HSI Summit Debrief (Teresita, Michelle)

Teresita provided an overview of the UC Davis HSI Summit. She noted the opportunity for networking provided by the Summit, that it was inspiring to meet with so many accomplished Latino/a professionals, and shared key messages from the sessions. In particular, she noted the need to address and reduce the stressors unique to Latino/Hispanic students in order to increase their success, the need to increase workforce diversity, the need to collaborate with our community college partners for enhanced efficacy, and the need to move beyond Hispanic enrolling to Hispanic serving considerations. Student needs should be at the forefront of all conversations. Finally, she noted the diversity of viewpoints expressed at the Summit—not all agree on best practices for Latino student success. Michelle agreed with Teresita’s assessment of the Summit and also noted that Vince Ornelas, Susan Green, Eddie Vela, and Susan Elrod recently participated in a HSI conference in Santa Barbara.
3. HSI Resources Available/Needed (Michelle/all)
   a. Communication channels: Email, UDC Blackboard Learn & webpage

The UDC website should link from the President’s home page as well as the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. HSI resources should be posted for UDC members and the campus community to access. We can also use email and Blackboard to share resources as we move forward.

   b. Campus partner brainstorm

HSI workgroup members will reach out to and engage with additional campus partners to strengthen our efforts. Names mentioned initially include: Lupe Jimenez, Esther Larocco, Barbara Fortin, Aurora Soto, Bertha Alicia Curiel, Elli Alaniz and Tracy Butts. Additional names should be gathered.

   c. Needs

The workgroup noted that a HSI grant writer should be hired to establish Chico State HSI eligibility and apply for Title V grants. Opportunities for STEM funding in particular were noted. In addition, the workgroup would like to see a needs assessment (survey, focus groups, open forum for discussion) conducted among students, faculty and staff this spring to determine what it means to be a Hispanic Serving Institution. Members also voiced strong support for a robust web presence with HSI information and a DREAM Center, in addition to opportunities to travel to/learn from CSU campuses that are successful HSIs.

4. Action items and timeline for the spring (all)

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<tr>
<th>UDC Priority</th>
<th>KPIs</th>
<th>Expected Date</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>2. Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Status Considerations</td>
<td>KPI 2.1 – Establish a steering committee to guide HSI efforts by December 2014.</td>
<td>December 2014</td>
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<td>Additional KPIs?</td>
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| 7. Closing the Achievement Gap | KPI 7.1 – Reduce by half the URM achievement gap in four and six year graduation rates by 2020.  
KPI 7.2 – Based on institutional data, identify at least three barriers to success for URMs.  
KPI 7.3 – Based on institutional data, | | Can we also look into the other non URM groups, e.g., Hmong students, low socio economic |
identify at least three strategies to overcoming barriers for URMs. Consider disaggregating data

Action steps to meet these KPIs will be discussed via email and in future workgroup meetings.

5. Other?

Additional spring meeting dates for the HSI/Closing the Achievement Gap workgroup are scheduled for March 27, April 24, and May 22.