Implementing a SoTL Program At A Community College

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Implementing a SoTL Program at a Community College

“Before I write my name on the board, I’ll need to know how you’re planning to use that data.”

SoTL Commons Conference
March 29, 2017
9:00-9:45 a.m.
Kim DeLauro
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Dawn Eaton
- Department Chair of Behavioral, Social Sciences, and Education

Ann Tate
- Dean of Liberal Arts
**Vision and Mission**

**Vision.** San Jacinto College will be the leader in educational excellence and in the achievement of equity among diverse populations. We will empower students to achieve their goals, redefine their expectations, and encourage their exploration of new opportunities. Our passions are people, learning, innovation, and continuous improvement.

**Mission.** Our mission is to ensure student success, create seamless transitions, and enrich the quality of life in the communities we serve.
San Jacinto College – Established 1962

Student population

- Central Campus – 13,775
- North Campus – 8,206
- South Campus – 11,277

> Total degrees/certificates – 6,520
> Full-time Student Attendance – 22.7%
> Part-time Student Attendance – 77.3%
> Average Class Size – 20
> Serving Seven School Districts
Background—getting started

- Fall 2015—Advertised the group during August in-service
- Application with leader approval
- Chose 10 candidates from across the South campus (academic and technical areas)
- Had to be able to commit to meet
Selecting Participants

- Important to have a nice mix of faculty from different areas of the college (both academic and technical).
Activities and Process

- Met bi-monthly
- Speakers
  - Dr. Brenda Jones, Provost
  - Office of Institutional Effectiveness
- Workshops
- Center for Teaching and Excellence (CETL support)
  - CETL sent eight members to the SoTL Commons Conference in March 2016
- Colloquium in April 2016
We grew!

- Warm reception from faculty
- For 2016-2017, new recruits (4 new people), plus 6 returning faculty who continued with the group and also served as mentors to the new people.
- Also expanded to our North campus—ten new members on North campus
- Plans to expand district-wide for next year
“In an increasingly complex world, sometimes old questions require new answers.”
Research Colloquia

- First Research Colloquium held on April 4, 2016
  - Faculty on South Campus presented their results of their studies in 5-7 minute presentations/elevator pitches
  - Administration invited
  - Cake and refreshments

- Second Research Colloquium will take place on April 18, 2017
  - Poster presentations (due to the sheer number of members across both campuses)
Examples of research

- Paullett Golden
  - “CEO For A Day”—Using Scenario-Based Prompts to Teaching Writing

- Pandora Freestone
  - “The One-Minute Paper and Its Effect On Attendance”

- Ralph Penn
  - “Using a Team Approach to Teach the Three Basic Control Structure Syntax in Computer Programming”
Examples of research

- Susan Eason
  - “Success With Teams”
- Christina Crawford
  - “Blogging to Build Community”
- Cristina Doda Cárdenas
  - “Student Self-Efficacy and Performance”
- Tonja Conerly
  - “Does the Use of Student Resources Improve Student Outcome?”
Examples of research

- Ben Fraser
  - “Creative Public Policy Paper vs. the Standard Research Paper”
- Pamela Betts
  - “Alternatives For Teaching Computer Programming”
MIND FILLING OUT THIS EVALUATION FORM FIRST?
Faculty Feedback

“I have completely revamped my lesson plan to include the successful features of my study and am in the process of revising the things that weren't as successful. The process has prompted me to update myself on the currently conversations in my field since it is so easy to get into a teaching limbo and out of the ongoing conversation of new research and teaching strategies.”
Faculty Feedback

“I'm looking at what I do in the classroom a different way, thinking about data collection and really measuring how changes impact student success.”
Faculty Feedback

“I've been encouraged not only to try new strategies in the classroom, but also to collect and analyze the results so that the successful strategies became data-driven and the not-so-successful strategies could be refined and retried. SoTL breathes new life into stale lesson plans and encourages networking and communicating about exactly what is happening in the classroom for each instructor. I learned so much from other instructors in the group!”
Questions – Contact

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