

## COMPASS STEERING COMMITTEE NOTES

Friday, October 28, 2005  
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm  
District Office – Board Room

Meeting was called to order at 1:35 pm. Present were: Doug Riddering, Steve Reif, Kelli VanBuren, Katherine Lichtenberg, Carla Mathews, Kathy Chiasson, Wanda Harris, John Mitchell, Jennifer Craft, Charlott Couch, Gary Haw, Janice Brown-Williams

### Assessment Exemption Placement Grid

Reviewed the current assessment exemption grid and made recommended changes, including the addition of AP Math, TOEFL & TWE score ranges with placements. Kathy Chiasson will send AP math breakdown to Leanne Nadlicki. The updated grid will be sent out to the committee members when complete.

It was suggested that the math department also determine the appropriate equivalencies and corresponding placement for SAT & ACT math test scores; however, Kathy Chiasson noted that in order to be accurate, an evaluation of the tests would be needed and this would require funding.

There was discussion regarding English placement and the use of ACT vs. COMPASS as the testing method. There was additional discussion regarding the new essay component of the ACT test and whether or not it should be used by OCC to determine placement. A question was raised whether or not ACT scores should have a limited timeline for use in determining placement before they expire.

Clarification is needed on how the ACT test scores are uploaded into the system. Gary Haw will check into this and let the committee know if it's automatic, and if not, if it can become automated.

### One-Semester Grace Period Rule

Leanne Nadlicki addressed the one-semester grace period rule provision after questions were raised by counseling during Fall registration. Students who do not place into ENG-1510 must meet with a counselor and receive "Counselor Approval" before registering for their second semester. It was suggested that a letter be sent out each semester to students who are registered for the first time but haven't yet taken the placement test to remind them that they will not be able to register for a second semester until the test is taken.

### E-mail Notification of Deregistered Students

Kathy Chiasson requested that an e-mail message be sent to students who are taken out of classes when they have not met the prerequisite. She noted that the postcard we currently send out does not always reach the student in time for them to react. The committee suggested that the college set up an e-mail account for students who do not have their own personal e-mail address in order to communicate with the student. In addition, it was

suggested that the M-TEC Warehouse sales be open to OCC students. This would provide students with an opportunity to purchase low-cost computer equipment. Gary Haw informed the committee that there is a small initiative to move the campuses into a wireless access environment.

#### Review of Placement Information Verbiage

Kathy Chiasson strongly suggested that the college catalog, schedule of classes, and online link for placement information be reviewed for content and consistency.

#### Bypass of 3-year Rule for Repeating Math Classes

Kathy Chiasson reported that the math discipline met and agreed to a change in the college policy in regard to repeating math classes. This change would allow students to retake and automatically register for any math class that they have previously earned credit for (grade of "D" or better on OCC transcript or equivalent transferred credit) regardless of time passed since the class was taken. At present, a temporary math placement must be granted before registration is allowed. This proposed change was met with some opposition. It is unknown if the system would be able to support this proposed change. Leanne Nadlicki will set-up scenarios in the test account to see if this is feasible.

#### Other Business

Charlott Couch proposed a policy change in the M-TELP scoring from current: score of 66-100 needs a writing sample for placement into ENG-1510. New scores: 90+ gives placement into ENG-1510 without writing sample; score of 66-89 needs writing sample for ENG-1510 placement.

Clarification: ESL students who have graduated from a US high school should take M-TELP, not COMPASS with appropriate placement into ESL courses or ENG-1510, not Academic Literacy. M-TELP is not an ESL test.

Kathy Chiasson had a question as to how the schedule of classes lists courses. When they are extracted, they are listed sequentially by campus, meeting time, meeting day.

Meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm. Next meeting – TBD.

Respectfully Submitted,



Leanne M. Nadlicki  
Recording Secretary