UDC-Community College
Office of Academic Affairs
Monthly Report – April 2014

The month of April was a very busy one for the Office of Academic Affairs. We bade farewell to Dr. Jacqueline Jackson on March 31st. Dr. Jackson has been with the College since its opening in 2009. We will miss her.

American Association of Community Colleges 94th Annual Convention
This month, several staff and faculty attended the 94th annual convention of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). The Community College was one of the host institutions for the convention, along with Prince Georges' County Community College (PGCCC), Montgomery College (MC), and Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA). We thank all of the faculty, staff and students, and representatives of the Men of Color Initiative (MOCI) who volunteered to serve as host/hostesses at the event. They were Labonnie Wise, Robin Cook, Hermina Peters, Bushra Noman, William Hacker, Avetta White, Ernestine Yarborough, Marilyn Hamilton, Gary Alston, Victor Montreuil, and John Ubong-Silas.

Three proposals were accepted by AACC for presentation at the convention. Drs. Jackson and Woodland, Professor Hamilton, Robyn Attebury Ellis, and John Ubong-Silas presented on topics related to increasing minority access to careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), using the Guided Pathways to Success (GPS) strategies being promoted by Complete College America (CCA); the results of a summer bridge program involving high school students, preparing them for the ACCUPLACER placement test; and the College's work on MOCI, a program designed to increase the retention rate of first time in college minority males who test into one or more remedial courses.

Program Reviews
This month reviews of the computer science and legal assistant degree programs were completed. The reviews indicated a need for more full-time faculty members, and in the case of the computer science degree program, greater emphasis on certificates. Faculty in each of these degree programs will be working over the summer months to implement the recommendations of the program review committees.

Hospitality CTE
A major overhaul of the hospitality program is underway. Dr. Melanie Anderson, a former Dean at the College, has assembled a group of experts in the hospitality industry to work on revamping the curriculum, establish relationships with industry members and implement changes recommended by the program review committee.

New Positions
This summer, the Office of Academic Affairs will be working to fill the following positions –

1. Administrative Assistant Position
2. Assistant Professor in Computer Science
3. Assistant/Associate Professor in Computer Science

4. Assistant Professor in Biology
5. Assistant/Associate Professor in Hospitality
6. Assistant Professor in Fashion Merchandising
7. Assistant Professor in Early Childhood Education
8. Assistant/Associate Professor in Business
9. Assistant Professor in Mortuary Science
10. Assistant/Associate Professor in Architecture/Construction Management
11. Program Coordinator of College Readiness, Partnerships, and Volunteers

New Degree Programs/Certificates/Courses
The Office submitted to the faculty senate for approval, a new degree program in Engineering Science (2+2 programming), a certificate program in Para-medicine and revisions to the English Second Language (ESL) courses. Those programs will be voted on in May.
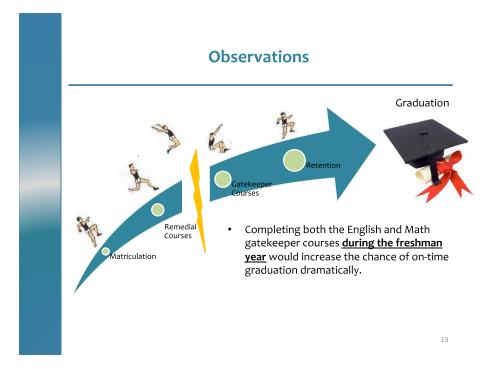
English as a Second Language Revised Curriculum Implementation
The Interim ESL Program Coordinator, Professor Juanita Eagleson, continues efforts to meet the original implementation deadline of Fall 2014 when the revised ESL courses would be introduced into the schedule. Conversations continue with the "Friends of the UDC-CC ESL Program" to ameliorate UDC's relationship with the Latino community. A meeting was held with UDC General Counsel, D. Scott Barash to discuss the importance of the Language Assess Act in the community,

Student Success Initiatives
Faculty and staff from the College and University attended a meeting in Boston, sponsored by Complete College America (CCA). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss strategies for implementing the STEM grant, which the College received from CCA. One of the main points of focus for the College is to assess the knowledge and skills in mathematics that are needed for each degree in the STEM disciplines. The College will be engaging faculty in this discussion in August when they return for the fall semester.

Our Achieving the Dream (ATD) coaches paid a semi-annual visit to meet with the college's ATD co-chairs for two days to discuss the student success initiatives related to college readiness and placement test preparation. Both of these initiatives are in keeping with the our data analytics which show that emphasis on any program that would keep students out of developmental education courses their first year in college will increase the graduation rate dramatically by as much as 60%.

Observations

- Completing both the English and Math gatekeeper courses **during the freshman year** would increase the chance of on-time graduation dramatically.

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National Conference on Integrated Basic Education Skills Training (I-BEST)
The Community Foundation invited Robyn Attebury Ellis to attend the Jobs for the Future National Conference on I-BEST Pathways in Seattle along with the College's community partner, Academy of Hope, an adult education charter school. The DC group toured Everett Community College's team taught I-BEST program and learned about students' experiences within multiple career pathways. The Gates Foundation provided three years of seed funding to create I-BEST programs in 8 states (Washington state the first) that help students with basic skills bridge the gap and prepare for credit-bearing courses through career-focused courses.

C.A.R.E. Dual Enrollment
The College Access and Readiness for Everyone (C.A.R.E.) Dual Enrollment Program continues to recruit eligible 9-12th grade students to take credit-bearing courses at UDC-CC this summer. Seventy-nine (79) eligible students applied to dual enroll in the second session of the summer semester 2014. Individualized advising, registration, orientation, and information sessions for students and families will continue throughout May and June, 2014.

C.A.R.E. Interventions
Of 3,195 high school and GED program students ACCUPLACER tested from 2011-2014:
- 6% (186) placed into college-level Math courses
- 16% (524) placed into college-level English courses
- 77% (2,485) placed into remedial courses in one or more areas

For these students who are not eligible to take credit-bearing college classes in Dual Enrollment, the College is partnering with the Office of the State Superintendant of Education this fall 2014 and spring 2015 to offer an in-school intervention course that promotes college readiness using ACCUPLACER My Foundations Lab preparation and targeted Math and English mini-lessons. UDC-CC is surveying interested partner schools for this intervention course, and plans to train

high school English and math faculty to implement these courses at 2-10 partner high schools with about 400 students total.

Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) Workshop
Cassandra Boyd (Workforce Development) and William Hacker (Academic Affairs) attended the CAEL workshop on Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) April 22-April 23 in Chicago, IL. The attendees learned that the Community College already has some prior learning assessments in place, such as the College Level Exam Program (CLEP) and Credit by Examination. The purpose of prior learning assessment is to assist with student retention and assist with students graduating faster. CAEL has been able to document that students who receive PLA are more likely to enroll and graduate from the institution that grants them PLA. More importantly, students who receive PLA credits are two-time more likely to graduate than students who do not receive PLA credits. Academic Affairs will begin to strategically use the portfolio component of PLA.

Summer Courses
There are currently 150 course sections in all degree offerings being offered during the summer sessions I and II. The current enrollment is 1,704.