

Foreign Language Meeting May 8, 2018

Attendees: A. Andrade, M. Barrio de Mendoza, E. Berman, A. Class, A. Moina, D. Shan, C. Sotolongo, N. Yoshida, S. Ribelles de la Vega, E. Geraghty
 Guests: Lillian Justice (Registrar) and Maribel Hernandez (counselor)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Grade Forecasting due this Friday, May 11
- Events proposed for September, 2018 (Alicia)
 - Alicia proposes the use of Foundation funds for an event on 9/24/18 with a focus on the influence of Latin American music. It would be one hour, feature three guest speakers, and a singing performance by Alicia herself.

SLO UPDATE (Kevin/Rhea)

- Rhea wants to remind faculty to review SLOs to make sure they are still appropriate and also to consider how the department uses SLO information to improve/modify instruction and/or curriculum.

CURRICULUM

- The faculty and Lillian Justice discussed the state-mandated Spanish 2 Prerequisite for Spanish 52A. Spanish faculty have opposed the hard prerequisite as it is unnecessary. We do not want native or heritage speakers to take the elementary Spanish courses; we want to direct them into Spanish 52A, a nearly impossible feat considering that all recruitment must start after the first day of classes when the Spanish 52A instructors visit the Spanish 1 sections to recruit native and heritage speakers. This is an enrollment nightmare for the deans as we never know for certain if sections will fill.
- Argelia spoke to SMC and ELAC faculty and learned that they do not have the hard Spanish 2 prerequisite for heritage speaker Spanish. Lillian noted that those schools might have problems with articulation if they're ever audited and that this can be a problem for students as degrees can be retroactively voided. This is regarding the Spanish AA-T degrees that are specifically connected to the CSUs. Any class that is part of an AA-T degree must adhere strictly to the C-ID descriptors, and Heritage Speaker Spanish is currently strapped with a hard prerequisite of Spanish 2.
- No definite solution was arrived at.

CREDIT by EXAM

David made the following chart after attending CLTA-SC:

Colleges	Allowing	Not allowing	Additional comments from their instructors
Los Angeles City College – All 9 campuses		X	“Counselors want the policy but we FL Dep’t don’t. We don’t want to be a Testing Service Center.” When asked if native students enrolled in an elementary language course, “I require them to help nonnative learners in the same class or let them take higher level courses.” (Dr. Lily Chang, Chinese Instructor at ELACC)
Long Beach City College		X	“We just don’t allow. Students must take courses for credit.” (Dr. S.T. Chang, English and Chinese instructor)
Pasadena City College		X	“We have our policy on this issue. We allow qualified students to waive the foreign language requirement for IGETC but not giving them units / credit. Instead, we encourage native or near native Chinese students to take relevant courses like Chinese calligraphy or culture or Japanese to earn foreign language related units.” (Dr. Cathy Wei, Chinese Instructor)
Irvine Valley College		X	“We never allow.” (Prof. Joanne Chen, Chinese Instructor)
Saddle Back College	X		“Why not?” (A female Professor of Chinese)

- There was much discussion about the requirement to assign a letter grade to CBE. David S. is worried about quality and enrollment because students, especially international students, will likely choose CBE in order to avoid paying international tuition (currently, ECC charges the regular \$46/unit for CBE, even for international students) and to get an “easy bump” to their GPA.
- Lillian initially said that the CBE grade is *not* factored into the GPA, but in a subsequent email, she said that it is. The faculty—David S. in particular—thinks it’s best if not factored in as the other way invites students to do CBE for a quick and cheap boost to the GPA.
- The CBE grade, which used to show as simply “credit” at the top of the transcript, now shows as a letter grade under the semester during which the CBE was administered.
- Lillian said that when a student fails CBE, there is no transcript notation as Admissions and Records doesn’t record failing CBE grades. Students cannot, however, repeat the CBE.
- Much more discussion is required for the faculty to make final decisions regarding offering CBE or not. Lillian will do more research, and we will discuss again in the future.