

Agenda: Prison Education & Re-Entry Program Committee

Thursday, April 4, 2024

9:00-10:30 am

Location: Chancellor's Conference Room, District Office

Present: Kalinda Jones, Stephanie Karas, Jeff Knorr, Veronica Lopez, Christina Washington

Preliminaries

I. Welcome

II. Consent Items

- Approval of past minutes (March)
- Approval of the Agenda

III. Updates

- Faculty coordinator positions for in-facility and on-campus
 - *No in-facility faculty coordinator updates for fall*
 - *On campus programs = structure at each campus:*
 - *ARC, CRC, & FLC: faculty coordinator*
 - *CRC: counselor who dedicates a few hours a week to Rising Scholars*
 - *ARC, CRC, & FLC: Dean*
 - *SCC: Classified Supervisor & Dean & Clerk*
 - *ARC, CRC, & SCC: have at various times had paid peer mentors*
- Tutoring
 - *No updates*
- Counseling
 - *Last that people heard the counselor met with students mid-March*
 - *Questions from the committee*
 - *?Proposal/plan? counselor meet with students for 20 minute appointments (committee would like clarity on this)*
 - *Why 20 minutes when students on campus meet with counselors for either 30 minutes to an 1 hour appointments?*
 - *Was there consultation with counselors working in facilities around the state?*
 - *The committee identifies this as an equity concern.*
 - *RECOMMENDATION- pass these questions on to DAS.*
- Student Senates
 - *Stephanie meeting with FLC Student Senate April 5, 2024, questions may be about on campus programming*

- *ARC's Rising Scholar peer mentor read student letters from incarcerated students to ARC student senate in fall 2023; student senators are interested in increasing involvement in student senate for incarcerated students;*
- Budget for Rising Scholars grants on each campus
 - *FLC does not have a Dean identified*
 - *SCC budget is not clear*
- DAS discussion regarding role of DAS on Academic & Professional Matters for PREP
 - *Summary of discussions in DAS about Academic & Professional Matters in PREP; Concerns regarding lack of faculty coordinator, department/program chair, protection for and clarity about role of coordinator.*

IV. Discussion Items (potential recommendations to Administration or DAS or Actions to be taken by Committee members or other people in PREP)

- PREP Lite Proposal (see page 3)
 - *Recommendation:*
 - *To LRCFT: refer to union for legal analysis*
 - *To DAS: ask that the DAS PREP committee be give written CDCR policies referenced in the document.*
 - *Follow-up with 2 faculty leads for PREP Lite regarding the proposal: the follow-up indicated that the information about student data and professional literature was not written by faculty and did not reflect what was done by faculty leads in PREP Lite.*
- Faculty Professional Development for In-Facility Faculty
 - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eIIbWfYXq7pT5sq8s1dNgyIAIz8Pm0CtnPogBeWR95M/edit?usp=sharing>
- Fall 2024: Educational programming & scheduling of classes
- Survey for incarcerated students
- Priority Registration- ACTION: *Check in with DAS concerning progress on this*

V. Emerging Issues/On-Going Topics

- A. Foundation
- B. Strategic planning/Growth of the program (CSP-SAC & YDF/SCOE)
- C. Physical space at each campus
- D. In facility-student transfers in the middle of the semester

*This committee meets every 1st Thursday at 9 a.m. If you have questions about an item on this agenda, please contact Kalinda Jones.

Committee Charge From Los Rios' website:

○ The District Academic Senate (DAS) approved the formation of the Prison and Reentry Education Program Committee (PREPC) on April 5, 2022. The Committee has been tasked by DAS to make recommendations on district-wide programs that interface with state and local correctional facilities and on-campus reentry services in support of SB 1391, AB 417, and SB 416. The Committee addresses issues pertaining to instruction, professional development, student services, academic counseling, equity, technology, and funding opportunities related to prison and reentry education. In addition, the PREPC supports Los Rios' compliance with the California Department of Corrections, Parole, Probation, and Sheriff's Departments in serving incarcerated and formerly incarcerated students with appropriate communication and academic resources. The Committee is responsible for the coordination of prison education and reentry efforts directed by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO).

The following content was forwarded to the PREP Committee via Alisha Shubb, DAS President. It was sent to her in an email from Mari Peshon.

Co-Teaching/Co-Learning LITE Opportunity Overview

Overview:

- A Los Rios group of PREP educators and subject matter experts that meets regularly, shares expertise, and works collaboratively to improve teaching skills and the academic performance of students in PREP.
- PREP professional learning communities serve three broad purposes: (1) improving the skills and knowledge of PREP faculty and subject matter experts through collaborative study, expertise exchange, and professional dialogue, and (2) improving the educational aspirations, and attainment of PREP students through stronger leadership and teaching and (3) improving the specific skills, knowledge, training and development tools of and for faculty instructing in PREP through collaborative study, expertise exchange, professional dialogue and creation of training and development tools specific to requirements, professional experiences and facility policies of PREP faculty and subject matter experts.

Participation In LITE Includes:

- (4) In-person or Zoom meetings/sessions on select Saturdays within the semester
- (3) In-person class observations in a correctional facility
- Development of a course syllabus to be offered in a future term in a correctional facility
- Complete brief content reading, video, podcast related to teaching in carceral settings for discussion in meetings

Activities/Content/Outcomes:

- Discussing faculty work: PREP participants collectively review curriculum, tools and assessments that have been used in PREP classes, and then offer critical feedback and recommendations for improvement.
- Discussing student work: Participants look at examples of PREP student work turned in for a class, and then offer recommendations on how pedagogy may be modified to improve the quality of PREP student work.
- Discussing student data: Participants analyze PREP student-performance data from a class to identify trends (success rates, retention rates, awards data, SLOs, etc.) and

collaboratively develop proactive teaching and support strategies to help PREP students who may be struggling academically.

- Discussing professional literature: PREP participants select a text to read, such as a research study or an article about a specialized PREP instructional technique, and then engage in a structured conversation about the text and how it can help inform or improve their PREP teaching. Participants develop a training process to train and exchange information with subject matter experts who are preparing to provide instruction in PREP. Through collectively reviewing guidelines, policies and procedures, curriculum and course delivery methods that align with corrections guidelines to ensure providing high quality instruction in adherence to California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) regulations. Share, collaborate and exchange professional development information and knowledge specific to navigating teaching behind the wall, coordinating with on-site CDCR educational experts and security, coordinating modifications to course delivery and instruction methods using tools and materials in alignment with CDCR policies.

Compensation:

- All current faculty will be compensated for up to 30 hours based on the current ESA salary schedule and FTE load availability.