Campus: East Bay

Team Leader: Susan Opp

1. What did your team commit to completing during these months? (What did you promise?)
   - We will develop a proposal for a campus fee to support Academic Access, Enhancement and Excellence (A2E2). We will hold forums of faculty and students to seek feedback, answer questions, and explain the purposes of the proposed fee.
   - New Director of Academic Advising and Career Education will start on May 2, 2011. A “Meet and Greet” event will be planned for the campus community and students.
   - Units within Student Retention Services will actively participate at Welcome Day on April 16, 2011. Staff will facilitate activities, workshops, and promote their programs to new students (freshmen and transfer) and their families.
   - The McNair Scholars Program will continue to recruit students for the 2011-12 cohort.
   - The CSUEB Student Research Competition contingent will travel to CSU Fresno for the competition, after being recognized at a reception at CSUEB.
   - New Peer Mentors for 2011-12 will be recruited from the freshman class and enrolled in peer mentor leadership classes.
   - We will request new and renewed freshman cluster proposals from faculty.

2. What did you do and how will it help?

   New Initiatives:
   - A proposal for a new campus fee to support Academic Access, Enhancement and Excellence (A2E2) was developed and presented in forums to students, faculty and administration. A particular focus of the proposal was to provide funding for initiatives that would support student retention and success, particularly for underrepresented students, and would involve assessment and reporting of progress. The proposal was revised based on extensive feedback, received approval from the Campus Fee Advisory Committee, and was submitted to Chancellor Reed for consideration.
   - We were thrilled to learn that our new Interim University President will be Dr. Leroy Morishita. We look forward to welcoming him on July 1.
   - The Freshman Year Experience program received an award of IRA funds for 2011-12 to provide a freshman year book and to provide funding for freshman disciplinary courses to participate in enhanced learning activities. The book that was chosen is *Live from Fresno Y Los: Stories* by Stephen Gutierrez who is also our Outstanding Professor at CSUEB for 2010-11.

   Communication:
   - Welcome Day for newly admitted freshmen and transfer students and their families was held on April 16, 2011. Student Retention Services held activities and workshops to promote their programs, and academic programs met with prospective majors to facilitate enrollment in majors courses.

   Improved Advising:
   - The new Director of Academic Advising and Career Education (AACE) arrived. AACE worked on the “Counselor of the Day” service model to provide students with immediate answers without an appointment, during the first 2 weeks of the quarter. AACE coordinated the Spring Job & Internship Fair and provided career-related workshops, including Resume Blitz, to prepare students for the Fair.
   - AACE hosted a NACADA webcast entitled “Strategies for Increasing Advising Effectiveness with Decreasing Resources” for Student Retention Services staff and other campus invited guests.
   - An Advising Action Plan was finalized by the Student Success Assessment Committee (SSAC). This plan identifies action items, and indicates the responsible parties, as well as goals and benchmarks for success. The plan will continue to be used to measure our progress toward improving student advising, from pre-enrollment through graduation, of our undergraduate students at CSUEB.
Enhanced Access and Success:

- Seven CSUEB students participated in the CSU Student Research Competition at CSU Fresno. Although none of our students won awards at the competition, we celebrated their successful participation in research projects that brought pride to the University.
- Forty-eight new sophomore Peer Mentors for 2011-12 were chosen from applicants. These students have participated in spring quarter 2011 training, and will continue to take leadership courses throughout 2011-12 while they act as Peer Mentors to our new freshmen students.
- A request for new and renewed Freshman Year Experience “cluster” courses was sent to the University faculty. The Academic Senate approved nineteen clusters, both new and renewed, for AY 2011-12. Of those, seven are designed for specific majors (science, engineering, and music) with high unit requirements. This high impact practice is mandatory for all freshman and spans the entire freshman year. A mandatory service learning component will occur in 2011-12 in the spring quarter of the General Studies (freshman seminar) course.
- Units within Student Retention Services (Student Academic Services, EXCEL, and McNair Scholars Program) promoted their departments and service offerings through poster presentations at the 2nd Annual CSUEB Diversity Day that took place on May 6, 2011.
- On May 4, 2011, AACE hosted the Student Service Scholars Program (CSSP) Recognition Celebration and Reception for the 2010 Rosenblatt Scholars. CSSP provides CSUEB students with an academically-related work experience and financial compensation for volunteering for a not-for-profit organization in the Bay Area.
- For Fall 2011, over 8,500 applicants requested Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) support services; 1,200 students qualified for EOP; and 325 new students have been admitted to the program. Student Academic Services staff attended 42 outreach events (community and campus).
- The McNair Scholars Program continued to actively recruit students for their 2011-12 cohort. Staff worked collaboratively with PEMSA to generate a list of eligible students to outreach to; improvements to the program’s website were made; pre-selection interviews were also scheduled with scholar candidates. With these activities, we hope to increase student participation in this HIP.

3. What will you accomplish in the next two months?

- The McNair Scholars program will host a celebration of the students graduating from CSUEB and continuing on into graduate programs.
- University Commencements and celebrations will be held. Student Academic Services will host their “End of the Year Ceremony” in which the academic success of student participants who have earned a 3.3 or higher GPA and EOP and Renaissance Scholars graduates will be honored.
- The McNair Scholars Program will finalize their admission decisions for Cohort 2011, and have a program orientation in June. Current McNair Scholars will attend the SJSU Summer Graduate School Boot Camp from June 27 to June 30, 2011. Over the summer, McNair Scholars will enroll in the Summer Research Course (July 5 – September 4, 2011).
- A team of faculty, staff and administrators will participate in the AAC&U High Impact Practices Institute at the University of Vermont. From this Institute, they will develop a HIPs white paper to present to the administration later in the summer.
- Transfer orientations will take place in July to welcome new students to campus, provide information about student services, and connect new students with major and GE advising. AACE will offer individual assistance to students, and offer additional advising sessions to new students who do not attend Orientation.
- Final reports will be received regarding Graduation Initiative Projects funded with one-time Federal stimulus funds. Projects that have been successfully implemented will be encouraged to continue functioning with an enhanced focus on assessment of impacts on student success.
- A cultural exchange of 10 Peer Mentor (sophomore) students with 10 students from Fukuoka Institute of Technology in Fukuoka, Japan will be planned for late summer. The plan will involve having the 20 students meet first at CSUEB for a week and then in Japan for a week for a cultural and educational exchange regarding the value and work of peer mentors.