ALAMO COLLEGES

PALO ALTO COLLEGE

PROGRAM REVIEW
Academic Programs

College English
[2009-10] through [2013-14]
Submitted [2014-15]

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Program Review Outcomes and Conclusions

Based on careful review of the strengths and weaknesses of the English Program, it has been determined that improving curriculum and increasing PGR in the two foundational courses, ENGL 1301 and 1302, should be the foci of the Program over the next five years. As a result, the following goals, steps, and actions are recommended:

Goal 1: To review and revise the ENGL 1302 curriculum to better prepare students in the critical reading of literary texts, the techniques of academic research, and the process of constructing research-based expository and persuasive texts.

Due to the success of the ENGL 1301 curricular revision, the Department will follow the same process for ENGL 1302 curricular revision. This process includes the following steps:

Years 1-2:
- Create a diverse committee, comprised of full-time and adjunct faculty.
- Research and study comparable course curriculum at other institutions, including PAC's sister colleges, as well as transfer-universities.
- Discuss and develop the appropriate curriculum for PAC students.

Years 2-3:
- Pilot the curriculum across multiple sections of the course.
- Evaluate success and opportunities from the pilot and revise as needed.

Year 4:
- Train full-time and part-time faculty to implement the new course curriculum department-wide.

Years 4 and 5:
- Engage in assessment and dialogue in order to improve course standards and student success.

Goal 2: To increase PGR in ENGL 1302 by 3%, during both fall and spring semesters.

To reach this goal, the following steps are required:

Year 2:
- Initiate a pilot lab component for ENGL 1302, to include five sections with a maximum enrollment of 22. Schedule pilot sections in lab classrooms, such as those used for INRW classes.

Years 1-5:

- Collaborate with the Writing Assistance Center by promoting the tutoring services and developing interventions that target at-risk courses such as ENGL 1301 and 1302.

Years 1-5:

- Work closely with IR to request data related to high-risk courses and to consistently track the impact of department initiatives that target ENGL 1302.

Years 1-5:

- Participate in discipline-specific professional development activities to stay abreast of the latest trends in language and writing due to technological advancements.

Goal 3: To increase PGR in ENGL 1301 by 2%, during the spring semester.

To reach this goal, the following steps are required:

Year 2:

- Expand the existing pilot lab component for ENGL 1301, to include five sections with a maximum enrollment of 22. Schedule pilot sections in lab classrooms, such as those used for INRW classes.

Years 1-5:

- Collaborate with the Writing Assistance Center by promoting the tutoring services and developing interventions that target at-risk courses such as ENGL 1301 and 1302.

Years 1-5:

- Work closely with IR to request data related to high-risk courses and to consistently track the impact of department initiatives that target ENGL 1301.

Years 1-5:

- Participate in discipline-specific professional development activities to stay abreast of the latest trends in language and writing due to technological advancements.