

From: Bill Scroggins/PresidentsOffice/MtSAC
To CEOs: Brian King - Los Rios CCD, Sonya Christian - Bakersfield College, Willy Duncan – Sierra College, Sunita Cooke – MiraCosta College, Eloy Oakley and Ann-Marie Gabel – Long Beach City College, Glenn Roquemore – Irvine Valley College
Cc: Ginni May – Los Rios CCD, Steven Holmes and Janet Fulks - Bakersfield College, Katherine Schmeidler - Irvine Valley College, July Bruno - Sierra College and Andrea Neptune – Sierra College, Susan Herrmann and Chris Hill – MiraCosta College, Karen Kane and David Morse - Long Beach City College
Cc: Irene Malmgren, Audrey Yamagata-Noji, Jeff Archibald, Shawn Whalen, Pam Walker
Date: 11/30/2016 11:31 AM
Subject: Planning for Application to Receive Innovation Award via Pathways

Colleagues,

We have been successful in receiving a \$34,000 planning mini-grant from College Futures Foundation ([link to narrative](#)) to assist us in applying for the Higher Education Innovation Awards. The strategy is for us to apply collectively/collaboratively under the umbrella of Guided Pathways. Initial involvement was indicated by the AACC Pathways colleges (IVC, Bakersfield, Mt. SAC) plus Long Beach, Los Rios, MiraCosta, and Sierra ([link to draft list](#)). Each CEO (and some Academic Senate presidents) received an email regarding the initiative earlier this month ([link](#)). The purpose of this communication is to provide additional information and to initiate meetings to plan for the Innovation Awards application process.

Awards for Innovation in Higher Education are funded with a state budget allocation of \$25 million. As explained on the DoF web site ([link](#)), "The program will recognize innovations at California's colleges—and, potentially, with other partners—that are expected to reduce the time it takes students to complete degrees and credentials, reduce the total cost of attendance for students, or do both." Guided Pathways are uniquely structured to assist students in being college ready and then entering and completing a program of study. The application ([link](#)), which is due February 3rd, is limited to 250 words so we will need to be succinct in our presentation.

The suggested approach is for the project to develop effective practices that can be implemented at scale to address key 'choke points' that inhibit student progress on their Guided Pathway toward an educational goal. A "menu" of effective practices-- contributed by each of our participating colleges--will provide flexible strategies that are responsive to a range of college needs.

GOAL 1: Reducing Barriers to Student Progress at Key Choke Points along the Guided Pathway

- 1) Transition from High School and Accessing Lifelong Learning
- 2) Aligning Assessment and Placement for Student Success
- 3) Onboarding for Early College Readiness and Choice of Career Cluster
- 4) Connecting Students to College: Cohorts, Learning Communities, and Integrated Support
- 5) Accessible Academic Support: Bringing Support to the Student
- 6) Basic Skills Reform: Multiple Pathways, Intrusive Support, Reducing Time to Readiness
- 7) Clear Maps of Course Sequences in Programs of Study, Based on SLO Alignment

GOAL 2: Aligning Scope, Funded Activities, Planning, Technical Assistance, Accountability Metrics, and Reporting for

- 1) Student Success,
- 2) Student Equity,
- 3) Basic Skills, and
- 4) Strong Workforce

This second goal aligns with the systems efforts to establish an integrated planning model. Again, Guided Pathways provides a unique framework to integrate these disparate sources of funding and align funding requirements and accountability reporting. A proposal that uses the one-time Innovation Awards to leverage and integrate existing funding should have excellent traction with reviewers. In addition, both Eloy Oakley and Pam Walker are supportive of this strategy.

To discuss this approach, discuss each college's current and planned work in this area, agree on roles for each of our colleges for the project, plan our future activities, and draft the application for the Innovation Award, three conversations are proposed:

- **A conference call in the second week of December and**
- **Two drive in/fly in one-day meetings in January, one in Sacramento and one in Orange County (travel costs reimbursed)**

Each CEO will receive a Doodle Poll request next Monday, December 5th, to identify dates for the meetings.

Two additional tasks would be useful for each CEO to address:

- **Review the contact list linked above and provide updated information on the team that will lead the work at your college and attend one or both of the meetings.**
- **Complete the California Guided Pathways Readiness Assessment and Application ([link](#)).**

The College Futures Foundation has also funded participation of up to 20 colleges to attend six institutes to train participating college teams in effective practices for Guided Pathways. It is our intention that the Higher Ed Innovation Award will provide funding for the on-the-ground work that is essential to implementing Guided Pathways at your college.

Bill