

Request - ESL
Monday, June 03, 2019

Hello, Bill and Ginny,

I have a request related to ESL student enrollment and retention. Some context:

ESL has had a significant slide in FTES this year starting in fall18 and accumulated to date a projected annual decrease of over 120 FTES. Student count is actually up, so there are retention issues. Here is a snapshot of Spring '19 enrollment data through Week 15.

Description	Spring 2019 Enrollment – WK 15			FTES			
	2018	2019	Difference	2018	2019	Difference	% change
ESL	4187	4229	42	670.69	624.2	-46.49	-7%

There are no change in demographics, and when speaking to the managers and faculty they've described anecdotal conclusions. We've pulled extensive data and just recently broke down the data differently with some surprising results. This can help our efforts with faculty and department operations.

My conclusion after reviewing the data and then speaking extensively to the managers and recently the faculty is that there are two areas of focus. These areas will take some time (the first more than the second).

- Faculty professional development occurs but is limited and not ongoing, including deeper examinations of curriculum and teaching methodology
- Scheduling and enrollment practices (in light of the disappearing wait-list)

I had the opportunity to meet with an ESL faculty advisory group recently, and their input was both enlightening and promising. As a result, our plan was to use some adult education dollars to provide faculty non-teaching hours and form a community of practice with two leaders (adjunct). ESL faculty already made suggestions to focus on teaching, syllabi evaluation, focus groups, and also leverage faculty for PD who are consistently retaining their students across levels. I found ESL to be very open and excited to be part of a yearlong project. After this meeting, I received emails from faculty in support of this effort, which was encouraging.

It became evident that to pull off an effort like this would be tough if we relied primarily on two adjuncts as leads. *So a solution came to mind that I am hoping you can support.* I would like to request a one-year contract faculty coordinator to provide the faculty leadership for this instructional project. I will **not** in the future ask for this to be converted into an ongoing or a tenure-track position for the purpose of this work.

Would you support me discussing the concept with the Senate and gauge their interest? An ESL faculty will accompany me. If this is agreeable to the Senate, are ok with this faculty project, I am then hoping to put in a proposal and fly a FT one-year position for Fall 2019- Spring 2020. The funding sources is a combination of the above sources which are running out starting in December 2019-June 2020. The NC SSSP amount is carryover from 18-19. Let me know if this sounds feasible. I'll make an appointment to share our data and our tentative vision. Thanks for your attention.

Madelyn