Initial Pilot Colleges: A Brief Summary

Background:

In late Spring 2014, the Chancellor's Office called for interested colleges to participate in the initial pilot group in the **Online Education Initiative** as a *Teaching College* (teach students from the other CCC), *Home College* (allow our students to take online courses at other CCC while retaining residency at our college), or both. Fifty-eight colleges applied, which were too many for an initial pilot. A second round of applications yielded twenty-four colleges of which Mt. SAC was one. The twenty-four colleges were divided into three groups of eight: Full Launch Colleges, Student Readiness Staging Group, and Tutoring Staging Group. Besides group specific activities, all colleges will also participate in other project activities. More information is available at http://ccconlineed.org/

All participating colleges will agree to the following:

- Participation in the course review [*for compliance with state and federal regulations, e.g., accessibility*] and update activities. [*Our locally conducted mock accreditation review already did this; however, not all of the courses identified for the OEI participated in that process.*]
- Use of CCCApply application by January 2015. [*We've been using CCCApply for a few years.*]
- Participation in the development of reciprocity agreements that will be needed to implement the project and ensure that all students receive the services necessary for their success.
- Participation in professional development activities as appropriate.
- Obtain the agreement to participate from the local Academic Senate. [*5/27/14, Distance Learning Committee recommended and endorsed our college's participation as Teaching College and Home College. 9/9/14 Curriculum & Instruction Council voted to support the project.*]
- Provide data necessary to assess the effectiveness of the pilot efforts.

[N.B.: internal notation in square brackets]

Pilot College Selection Criteria

The following considerations were used to determine college inclusion in the pilot:
• Use of Open CCCApply, a system wide online application and identification system for California Community Colleges admission and financial aid (see http://home.cccapply.org/)

• Completion of second request for information

• Established online degree programs that could contribute knowledge and best practices based on experience

Established professional development programs that assist faculty members with online education-oriented pedagogical and student services concerns

• Geographical location (north, south, central), and size of student population (small, medium, large)

• Diversity of course management systems (CMS), important for learning about the best practices, features and functions of the different systems to inform the ultimate selection of a common CMS

• Capacity, in terms of faculty and staff, to add more online courses

• Pilot involvement in related CCC projects, the Common Assessment Initiative (CAI) (http://cccassess.org/) and Educational Planning Initiative (EPI) (http://cccedplan.org/)

Tutoring Staging Group: Mt. SAC, Imperial Valley College, Ohlone, Columbia, LA Pierce, Saddleback, Barstow, and Victor Valley.
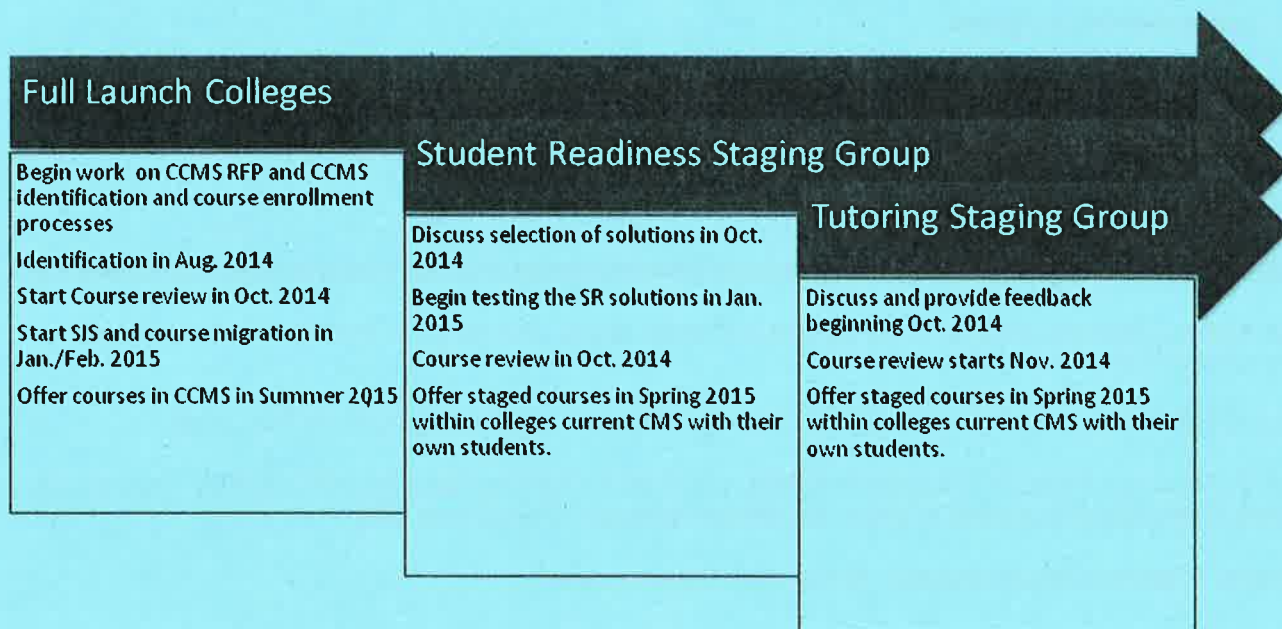
a. Review and pilot method of delivering effective online tutoring services for students in online classes and integrating statewide support services with local tutoring services.
b. Develop a plan to promote robust and effective use of online tutoring services.
c. Participate in evaluation of online tutoring pilot.
d. Participate in staging activities for entry into the course exchange.
e. Colleges begin tutoring solution preparation work in November 2014 with participating colleges submitting candidate courses to the OEI for inclusion in Spring 2015.
f. The tutoring pilot will take place within the teaching colleges' own systems with their own students and CMS.

Full Launch Staging Group: Butte, Coastline, Foothill, Shasta, Fresno City, Lake Tahoe, Mt. San Jacinto and Ventura

Student Readiness Staging Group: Antelope Valley, Cabrillo, College of the Canyons, Monterey Peninsula, West Los Angeles, Rio Hondo, MiraCosta and Hartnell.

OEI's General Timeline:
- August 2014: College Selection
- August 2014: Colleges respond to selection announcement; pilot groups are formed
- August 2014: Work with the Technical Implementation Group begins with participation in the development of the common course management system (CCMS) request for proposal (RFP) phase
- September 2014: Colleges participating in the SRG begin work with the OEI Chief Student Services Officer
- September 2014: Colleges participating in the OTG begin work with the OEI Chief Academic Affairs Officer (Jory Hadsell)

Full Launch Colleges

Full Launch Colleges	Student Readiness Staging Group	Tutoring Staging Group
Begin work on CCMS RFP and CCMS identification and course enrollment processes	Discuss selection of solutions in Oct. 2014	Discuss and provide feedback beginning Oct. 2014
Identification in Aug. 2014	Begin testing the SR solutions in Jan. 2015	Course review starts Nov. 2014
Start Course review in Oct. 2014	Course review in Oct. 2014	Offer staged courses in Spring 2015 within colleges current CMS with their own students.
Start SIS and course migration in Jan./Feb. 2015	Offer staged courses in Spring 2015 within colleges current CMS with their own students.	
Offer courses in CCMS in Summer 2015		

OEI Next Steps and Mt. SAC Activity:

Timeline	Online Education Initiative Activities	Mt. SAC Activities
AUG 2014	9/10/14: Jory Hadsell, OEI Academic Affairs Officer held a kick-off phone conference [Attendance: Mary Johnson, Sandra Weatherilt, Bailey Smith, Bob Hughes, and Meghan Chen.]	Distance Learning Committee is the expert group to work with this project: get all the details, make recommendations, work with other campus groups. This project will be an ongoing agenda item as part of DLC's work.
SEPT 2014	None indicated – more information forthcoming	Seeking Senate approval. DL Faculty Coordinator and Dean of Library & Learning Resources will communicate with respective faculty and administrators' groups about OEI and specific activities and timelines.
OCT 2014	Involve Academic Senate in identification of 5 online courses Instructor application/agreement due 10/15-10/31: Course review period RFP for online tutoring platform released. Discuss and provide feedback.	Academic Senate, faculty, DL Faculty Coordinator to lead the process; participating faculty to complete application to allow OEI course review. DL Faculty Coordinator and Assistant DL Faculty Coordinator applied to serve as independent course reviewers for other colleges' courses. DLC, tutoring centers with online tutoring will discuss implications
NOV 2014	Course review	DLC and OLSC will support the course review process and online tutoring project.
	Choose tutoring platform; criteria: • 24 x 7 tutoring support by pro tutors • Use platform in addition to local platform Use pro tutors, local tutors, or both	The mock accreditation review of DL courses conducted in Spring 2014 prepares the College for this activity.
DEC 2014	Integrate tutoring platform with local CMS	Integrate tutoring platform with Moodlerooms [current online tutoring platform operates independently of MR.]
JAN-FEB 2015	Train tutors on pilot tutoring platform	Train tutors on pilot tutoring platform and possibly MR
Spring 2015	Offer staged courses within colleges' current CMS with their own students. Implement tutoring platform [options to use professional tutors, local tutors, or both]	Offer staged courses within colleges' current CMS with our own students Locally decide if using professional or local tutors, or both.

Mt. SAC courses identified for OEI participation in Spring 2015 based on the following criteria:
- General education courses in approved Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT)
- Offered 100% online
- More than one online section to be offered in Spring 2015

Mt. SAC's ADT courses that met OEI's criteria	ADT courses listed by OEI *not* available or not *offered* 100% online at Mt. SAC
ADJU 1 Intro to Criminal Justice	Anth120 Intro to Cultural Anthropology
CHILD 10 Child Growth and Development	Comm150 Intercultural Communications
BUSC 1A Principles of Macroeconomics	Engl100 College Composition
BUSC 1B Principles of Microeconomics	Geol100 Physical Geology
GEOG 2 Intro to Human Geography	Hist130 US History to 1877
PHIL 5 Introduction to Philosophy	Hist140 US History from 1865
PSYC 1A Introduction to Psychology	Math110 Introduction to Statistics
SOC 1 Introduction to Sociology	PolS110 Introduction to American Government
	Soci120 Introduction to Research Methods

Questions & Some Answers [from the 9/10/14 kick-off phone conference with Jory Hadsell]

1. **When would Mt. SAC begin offering courses via OEI?**

It depends on the CMS decision and implementation. The soonest is Summer 2015. By Fall 2015, identify the number of courses to be in OEI. Fully in effect in Spring 2016.

2. **Who gets FTES – Home College or Teaching College?**

Teaching College gets the FTES generated. Home College gets to claim completion for the Score Card. Actual timeline and how it works depend on when the Course Exchange is up and running. There are reciprocity agreements that need to be developed among participating colleges; it is a complex project and will likely take a while to establish.

3. **CMS determination – who's deciding and who's in the room to make those decisions?**

The CMS Steering Committee and representatives from the Full Launch 8 colleges make up the group that is developing the criteria for RFP. The group now has 50 people with diverse and broad representation across the state's CC. One criterion the group says is crucial is whatever CMS is chosen, the course content migration process has to be as easy for faculty as possible.

4. **What are the data elements for assessing the effectiveness of the pilot efforts?**

This is an ongoing conversation which includes the participating faculty and colleges. Participating colleges will have the opportunity to participate in the evaluation rubric and data elements. Virtual meetings will be held throughout the semester (Spring 2015). In general, the idea is to look for change in retention and success rates in the participating 3-5 course sections compared to other non-OEI courses. OEI is working with the RP Group to design the evaluation.

5. **Who are in the Tutoring Workgroup that is developing the RFP for online tutoring vendors? What areas of their colleges they represent or their role at their institution regarding academic support and online tutoring?**

Anita Crawley - OEI Launch Team (Student Services Officer)
Ray Sanchez (Fresno City College -- Tutorial Center Coordinator)
Bonita Robinson (Cerro Coso -- Professor, Education and Personal Development-Learning Skills Specialist-Tutoring Coordinator)
Jim Julius (Mira Costa -- Faculty Director of Online Education - Also very active in Western eTutoring Consortium)
John Wood (Pasadena -- Director of the Pasadena City College Learning Assistance Center)
Kevin O'Conner (Saddleback -- Dean of Liberal Arts)