

SanFACC Mentor Program Leadership Communication

1/20/2015

To the Presidents/Superintendents

My name is Roger Bowerman, Staff Development Officer and SanFACC Mentor Program coordinator from Glendale Community College. I am writing on behalf of the SanFACC Mentor Program leadership. Over the past 6 months our group has worked to revise and reinvigorate the Mentor Program. I have been selected as the liaison between our committee and the Presidents/Superintendents of SanFACC as a means of facilitating communication and coordination.

On January 15th the Mentor Program leadership held a retreat. Out of this event we have crafted a Purpose Statement so that we can all share in a clear goal for the program:

The SanFACC Mentor program seeks to build both individual and regional leadership capacity. Mentees with a clear interest in entering or advancing in community college management will be paired with mentors from neighboring colleges already serving in an administrative role. This experience provides a safe environment to develop a knowledge base that supports effective leadership and management. Participants are enriched by experiencing the best and practices and lessons learned from colleagues across the region.

To better achieve this purpose, we are looking to enrich the activities for those involved in the Program. In the past mentor-mentees would have only two organized meetings a year – the opening and closing events. Starting in the 2015-2016 academic year the SanFACC Mentor Program will also organize a fall leadership workshop for all involved. Our objective is to provide better support for everyone in the program, thus developing greater leadership for the region.

In addition to adding directed leadership training, the SanFACC Mentor Program coordinators have revised the application materials to better reflect program goals, redesigned our survey to capture more data to help us evaluate the Program's effectiveness, and will work to modify the SanFACC Mentor website to include resources for both mentors and mentees in the program. We are also working to gather materials to produce an accurate history of the program, and – lastly – we have designated a liaison to better coordinate and collaborate with all of you.

In order to further reinvigorate the program, the SanFACC Mentor Program coordinators request the following information from the Presidents/Superintendents:

1. What do you think are the important aspects of the Mentor Program?
2. What is the current level of dues for the members of SanFACC, and what do those dues support?
3. Do the Presidents/Superintendents only want to attend and give a short presentation at the opening and closing events, or do they also wish to attend the fall leadership workshop?
4. Currently, each campus hosts an event once every three years (cost ca. \$1,000) Does the executive leadership wish to continue supporting the Mentor Program in this fashion for each college hosting every 2 years (re: three annual events), or are you interested in developing a level-funding approach of \$500 per year per college?

It is our understanding that the SanFACC Presidents/Superintendents will be meeting in the near future, and hope that you can bring these items up during that meeting.

Thank you for your support of the SanFACC Mentor Program.

Roger Bowerman
SanFACC Mentor Program Coordinator
Glendale Community College