

----- Original Message -----  
From: "Mimi Arvizu" <marvizu@gavilan.edu>  
To: <all@gavilan.edu>  
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2004 8:48 AM  
Subject: [Fwd: Proposal to Add Noncredit Programs]

Steve Kinsella wrote:

Good morning everyone. I understand there have been a number of questions raised about what the plans are for the Community Education department since I place two personnel items on the closed session agenda related to the Associate Dean and an Interim Director of Community Education. The attached proposal is what I have prepared for discussion with the college community. I want to move quickly on this proposal and ask that you respond immediately. If you want to share your personal concerns with me, please email me directly. If you have a concern you want your constituency group to consider, please contact your representative and let that person know about your thoughts and concerns.

I apologize for not being around campus as much as I have been in the past. There are a number of critical activities occurring that require my involvement. Hopefully, things will slow down a bit in regards to site activities in a month or two. All I can say at this point is that we are looking at expansion options in Gilroy, Coyote Valley and Hollister/San Benito. I will have more information available in the newsletter next week.

The noncredit proposal is intended to do several things for us. We have previously discussed the fact that we are struggling to reach our enrollment goals. There is about \$400,000 available to us from the state to provide additional educational services. It is clear that more than 30% of our residents do not connect with Gavilan. They have decided that other urban colleges meet their needs better than Gavilan does. I suspect that there is an untapped market of people who want to take advantage of a college education but are denied access because they are not prepared to take even our 400 level credit courses. I believe that offering noncredit programs may allow these people the opportunity to acquire the basic skills needed to enter a college level educational program. An effective noncredit program can serve as a feeder program for our credit program and provide access to higher education to community members who never thought they could get into college. The other objective of the proposed change is to make another attempt to get the Community Education department to at least a break even position. We currently provide a general fund subsidy of \$100,000. The Expenditure Reduction Task Force recommended removal of the subsidy which only reinforces my interest in bringing this program up to a break even

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point.

Please read the attached proposal for more details and justification.

Sincerely,

Steve Kinsella

PS: Please excuse any grammatical errors. I am in a bit of a rush :-)

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