Reading Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2015

Present: Melanie LeMaster, Rene Hester, Karen Maguire, Wanda Day

The discussion centered on meeting the requirements of SB 1720 and our FSW Implementation Plan submitted to the state. All agreed that alternatives to taking “Reading for College Success” are in place at the Lee Campus at FSW. However, there are some gaps at all campuses. They are as follows:

* If a student tests out of a class, there may be no openings in other classes, ENC 1101 in particular.
* Testing the first day is not feasible since not all students show up. There is such a short window of time for faculty and students to meet the deadline. Will there be arrangements made for those who do not show up the first day?
* Students have many opportunities before classes start to remediate. They can retest, there are MOOCs, and the Writing Center on Lee offers refreshers. Additional questions that were brought up were: (Do all the Academic Success Centers offer PERT Remediation? What materials do they use? They should NOT be using Ten Steps or Advancing Vocab Skills from Townsend Press because those are our course textbooks. Is there coordination between the advisors who get the PERT results and the Academic Success Centers on when to offer the remediation so a student can do it and retake before the semester starts?)

Suggestions:

* Leave some openings in ENC 1101 on all campuses for students testing out of reading.
* Create an English Composition mini-B on each campus or online course they can enter.
* Create a mini-semester course program that covers reading and writing and give credit for both so higher scoring students can finish and move on (Mini-A reading and Mini-B writing—both compressed and modularized).
* If they test out of College Reading, put the tuition for that class toward ENC.
* Emphasize to students through registration, orientation, and advising, in writing, that if they want to test out of remedial classes, then they must remediate and have signed evidence such as scores and paperwork that shows they have met the requirements. Give them a deadline to come back to their advisor before the semester starts.

In conclusion, as a group we believe that there are enough options in place for students to have a choice. Those choices just need to be available in the right places at the right times. Deadlines should be in place, so that there is no confusion or added stress to the process.