

Mt. San Antonio College
Retention and Persistence Committee

Minutes
May 25, 2021
3:00pm – 4:30pm
Zoom Meeting

✓	Jeanne Marie Velickovic (Co-Chair)	✓	Julie Cortez		Tiffany Kuo (Guest)	✓	Pauline Swartz (Guest)
✓	Shiloh Blacksher (Co-Chair)	✓	Rigo Estrada (Guest)		Jasmine McLeod	✓	Koji Uesugi (Guest)
✓	Haneen Alghita-Agular	✓	Sun Ezzell	✓	Sara Mestas	✓	Ned Weidner
✓	Daniel Berumen	✓	Hong Guo		Gizelle Ponzillo	✓	Susan Wright
✓	David Beydler		LaTasha Hagler		Jaime Rodriguez (Guest)	✓	Vianey Arenas (Recorder)
	Elizabeth Casian	✓	Lesley Johnson	✓	Carlos Santana		

Agenda Item	Discussion	Outcome
1. Welcome, Announcements and Approval of Minutes	The committee reviewed minutes and Hong Guo made an announcement about an upcoming seminar.	May 11, 2021 minutes approved by committee. Click to view R&P Minutes 5.11.21 Free Ungrading Webinar w/ Jesse Stommel on June 11
2. Presentation on #RealCollege 2021: Basic Needs Insecurity During The Ongoing Pandemic	<p>Dr. Koji Uesugi, Rigo Estrada, Pauline Swartz presented on a survey that The Hope Center conducted during Fall 2020. The highlighted factors that affected college students during the pandemic, including: food insecurity, housing insecurity, and homelessness. Rigo mentioned challenges that students shared during the pandemic, including difficulty concentrating on classes, having to take care of a family member, and problems with internet/computer access.</p> <p>The presentation made members aware of all the negative factors and challenges that real college students are facing. This survey demonstrates that a real college student is not limited to one specific category and that they face multiple concerns and obstacles. The survey highlights how college students have struggled with the pandemic and the persistent obstacles that students faced even before the pandemic began. Committee members shared helpful links that faculty and staff could share with students.</p>	<p>Great efforts were made during the pandemic to continue to provide basic needs resources to students. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mt. SAC continued to provide a trauma-free food pantry to students and implemented efforts to destigmatize Cal-Fresh • Provided students with housing referrals • Made sure students were linked to other resources <p>Members participated in the discussion, and shared some ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use culinary students to provide breakfast for students on campus • Use business students to have work-study opportunities

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraged students to have mental-health seeking behavior • Created a referral system • The Library Initiative for Equitable and Affordable Learning (LIEAL) – can provide free or low-cost class materials for students <p>Committee members shared the following links:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hope Center – Syllabus Statement Guide • Importance of using a warm tone on syllabus • A guide on showing care for your students • Direct resources and information related to basic needs • Pauline Swartz Google Jam Board
<p>3. Faculty Resources</p>	<p>The last portion of the committee meeting was Sara Mestas presenting on faculty resources. She shared efforts to place faculty resources on one accessible website.</p>	<p>Committee members agreed that there are many resources for faculty and students but that there is no centralized place to access the information.</p>

Upcoming meeting date: September 14, 2021