

Program Viability Committee Summary

August 31, 2023 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – Zoom

Members present: Garrett Rieck (Noncredit Faculty), Tricia George (Humanities/Interim Curriculum Committee Chair), Jason Burgdorfer (MSHP-MSE), Julie Hovden (Counseling), Dr. Omar Torres (CIO), Hestia Sartika (ASG, Student Trustee) Ellie Wingo (ASG, Student VP President Inter Club Council), Heather Dotter (Interim Dean, Health Professions), Jaya George (Faculty Director, Pharmacy Technician Program), Jennifer Paris (ECE).

Guests: Marilyn Jimenez (Academic Senate Administrative Assistant), Jeff Gregor (Exec. Dean, Inst. Services & Public Safety), Harriet Happel (Dean, CE, Integrative Learning & Emp. Center), Karl Striepe (Political Science), Nadia Cotti (Dean, Applied Tech.), Brittany Applen (ASL/Recreation Management), Daylene Meuschke (Assoc. VP, Insti. Research, Plan, Effectiveness), Juan Renteria (Photography).

Note: We are required to hold a training once a year for the PV committee members due to Curriculum. The committee is working in partnership with the Curriculum Committee. Once the membership is expanded then this training will be even more important a year from now once changes to AP 4121 are approved.

I. Routine Matters

1. Call to order: 10:05 am
2. Approval of the 5/4/2023 meeting minutes:
 - a. Meeting minutes will return on the next agenda.
3. Approval of the Agenda

II. Program Viability (PV) Committee Training

- a. Garret Rieck lead a Program Viability Committee training that is required once a year due to the committee working closely with the Curriculum Committee.
- b. A [Program Viability Committee Training Fall 2023](#) presentation was shared.

III. Discussion

1. Program Revitalization (return visit): Recreation Management – Brittany Applen
 - a. **Courses Approved:** Recreation management has been going thought the Revitalization process for about 1 year. REC 120 (Hiking and Recreation) and REC 121 (Camping) have been approved and are now being offered this fall 23. The program had to wait for state approval to confirm the schedule and dates.
 - b. **Marketing:** Students were able to register with no advertising to the community. A COC all email was sent to the campus community and the students involved in recreation management program to invite all to participate in the trip. There are now 22 enrolled in the Camping class and 2 that are getting permission to add. The classes are needed as there are many who don't feel safe hiking but want to be on the trails. SCV does a monthly hike and the program is partnering with the city to do more events with recreation and the community services.
 - c. **Course Scheduling:** The idea was not to have a 30-student class as that may be too large of a group. There may be waitlisted students for these classes soon. It is difficult to do a scheduling for these courses. The course being offered is on a Friday morning and many campus employees that wanted to take this classes were not able to do so. Course offerings will be scheduled soon that fall in line with all groups who want to do courses for after work hours, weekends for students or early morning for working parents. For next semester the program is looking to schedule a course for early

Wednesday for hiking. The Campus trip has 2 Monday meetings. Brittany is on campus for the backpacking, rock climbing and survival sorting. Course will be rolled out slowly and courses will not go live until spring. Many new programs were built in non-credit and it takes much effort to market and have student enroll.

- d. **Courses to be approved:** The other courses approved curriculum include Hiking and Climbing. The next three courses to be approved will be Backpacking and Wilderness Survival and Climbing. There was discussion last year regarding how many units these courses include for lecture and lab.
- e. **TLU's Required for Courses:** Brittany took the course outline of record for the Backpacking course she teaches at CSUN to determine how much is spent teaching. For some areas it takes 15 minutes, such as reminding students to do a backpack check. Other areas can be done in hybrid format by watching videos. The total lecture hours are 18.5 and the total lab hours are 15.75. The more time is spent with students prior to hiking helps students feel safer and more comfortable.
- f. **Field Trip Days:** Field Trip days will be scheduled for 7-10 hours. Saturdays 6-10 Sundays 6-2 hours and post trip meeting for a reflective practice is 15 minutes. Total lab time is 55.25. This would be a 2-unit course with 1 unit of lecture and 1 of lab. This is more lab heavy course as learned skills are applied in the field.
- g. **Instructors on Record:** Garrett Hooper and Brittany Applen are teaching the class. Both are splitting the load and doing all the lectures together. For these classes it is important that there are qualified people. There is a 1:8, 1:5 and a 1:9 ratio and this can be an instructional faculty member, or a college assistant or a recent graduate. Garret Hooper, Brittany Applen, Garrett Rieck, Juan Renteria, Carly Gott and Jason Burgdorfer have all been involved in the conversation. Having 2 instructors of record is a good start to building a program with no lab assistance. There is no need for more TLU's it is a lot of work to run these classes. Both Brittany Applen and Garrett Hooper have their Wilderness First Responders training. Juan Renteria will be doing his interview and the hope is to hire him and another faculty. All courses are wilderness base such as wilderness backpacking and wilderness survival.
- h. **Recreation Management Course at other local CCC's:** There are 5 schools offering back packing this includes, Cuesta, Madera, Reedley and Saddle Back and Sierra. 4 out of the 5 offer this course as a 1 unit 9 hours of lecture and 24 hours of lab. Instead of the 18 hours of lecture and 54 hours of lab being proposed. Sierra College is the only school offering a similar model to the one being proposed.
- i. **Program Concerns:** The idea is to offer a course in an intentional strategic way that doesn't unintentionally, disproportionately impact students' schedules, jobs and families. In regards to the Backpacking course, if 4 out of 5 schools are offering a 1-unit model with 9 hours of lecture and 27 hours of lab why would this not be considered as a starting point?
- j. **Feather River and Lake Tahoe College Course offering:** There are two other colleges, Feather River and Lake Tahoe offering an incredible program in the proposed format. The contact person passed away in the backcountry. Brittany worked with him and the plan falls in line with industry standards. Feather River College only offers 1 time on campus and they are out on the weekend.
- k. **Pathway to CSUN RTM Program:** This class and program are being built to be a pathway to CSUN. At CSUN the Outdoor Coordinator, Al Wright, the Chair Nate Martin and Dean Michelle Best (former chair) have all been involved in the planning and currently serve on the Advisory Board. The classes at CSUN are 2 units. Historically at

CSUN in 2000 it was 1-unit course, Intro to Back Country then after the 1-unit student did a 1-unit course in backpacking or sailing. The students met one time on campus and then went out for the weekend. That is the unit with the 9-hour lecture and 27 hours on the weekend. In the model being used the 1 unit is left and there is an intro class. Students then take a 2-unit activity course such as Hiking and Climbing. These do not transfer and are only local courses for more for enrichment. The other classes transfer with the 23-unit model, such as the wilderness, medicine, water purification and leave no trace.

- l. **Safety Concerns:** In regard to equity and safety perspective students show up to classes and don't know anything. Many have never hiked or have zero context for backpacking. From a risk management perspective if an instructor only meets a student 1 time they are not being set up for success. It is important for students to create a community so they know who they are hiking with. It is important to identify red flags with students.
- m. **Risk Management:** In regard to scheduling from 7am – 9pm there is concern that perhaps this may be too many hours of instruction. There has to be some down time. Pedagogically and feasibility concern with packing 15 hours days with a follow up 8-hour day. These are not 15 hours days these experiences are 24 hours of instruction. If they are cold at night they are learning how to keep warm and how to drink electrolytes. The outlined hours are for the 15 hours students are awake. Brittany has a poop lecture which is not looked as an instructional lecture. Brittany makes sure talk about body functions and how they are feeling. Brittany may need to be the nurse, psychologist, menu person, water purifier and sanitation. While courses feel heavy on TLU's all the lab is happening. All classes have the back country basic. All courses will be 2-unit lab with 1 unit of lecture. Brittany is not interested in offering this course if it compromises faculty or the college.
- n. The recommendation is to have an Ad-Hoc Committee that includes, Brittany Applen, Garret Hooper, Garrett Rieck, Juan Renteria, Tricia George and Dr. Omar Torres to make sure the combination of hours work best for the students and college. Brittany will be meeting Dr. Torres. Garrett will reach out to Cyndi to schedule a meeting. Results will return to PV. Brittany will send the SOP from CSUN to Dr. Torres.
- o. **Motion to approve** the tabling of this agenda item and forming ad-ho committee by Julie Hovden by Omar Torres. Unanimous. Approved.
- p. Next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 14th at 10:00am.

IV. Adjournment: 11:35am