

Vernon College Gender Equity Subcommittee Meeting
Century City Room 115
3:00 p.m., August 16, 2012
Minutes

The Vernon College Gender Equity Subcommittee met at 3:00 p.m. in the Century City Board Room. The meeting was called to order by Sharon Winn, Chair.

Members present were Sharon Winn, Dr. Gary Don Harkey, Betsy Harkey, Deana Lehman, Mark Holcomb, Jessica Sutherland, and Zela Haney. Members not present were Lynn Kalski, Leann Jordan, Ruth Rascon, Andy Todd, and Samantha Hoelscher.

The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. Betsy moved the minutes be approved; the motion was seconded by Deana; the motion passed.

Sharon reviewed the purpose of the subcommittee which is to ensure emphasis for gender equity enrollment and success in technical programs. The committee agreed that gender equity implies that occupations/professions/technical programs are equally accessible for anyone interested regardless of gender and that strategies that promote gender equity are inclusive rather than exclusive in removing barriers to participation and completion for all regardless of gender.

The committee reviewed the gender equity plan for 2012-2013. Sharon explained the process used for developing the plan and that the CTE programs submitted strategies they would pursue to increase underrepresented gender participation and completion. Performance data for 2011-12 and the target rates for 2012-13 were reviewed. Vernon College CTE programs did not meet the target rates for 2011-12. Sharon explained that the plan for 2012-13 included an evaluation measure of increasing 1.5 percent annually until the target rates are met.

Review of the 2012-13 plans included the following comments and discussion:

Nontraditional Participation:

1. Dr. Harkey explained the primary promotion of gender equity on the college's website will be through the CTE programs' webpages and that he will work with Michelle Alexander's office to get materials posted and updated.
2. Gary Don emphasized that we should utilize promotional materials available to us including use of materials and information on the TEXASGenuine project website. Sharon explained that Perkins Basic funds are allocated for promoting nontraditional participation.
3. Two special events will be hosted for recruiting nontraditional students. One will be for high school girls to explore the technical and industrial programs at STC, and the other will be for males to checkout the careers that the CC programs prepare students to pursue including nursing and allied health care programs, cosmetology, and office technology.
4. An outreach strategy to reach other nontraditional populations includes hosting a career event for students in adult basic education and GED classes.

Nontraditional Completion:

1. Dr. Harkey explained that the Early Alert System is used to get assistance early in the semester for students who are having difficulty in their course of study.
2. Deana explained the services available through the PASS Centers, New Beginnings, and ADA accommodations.

3. CTE programs that identified specific strategies for success include the following: ADN will upgrade computer-based supplemental study materials and assign a faculty advisor for each student, the Industrial and Technical Division will implement strategies from the “Best Practices from the Tech Project” CD to prevent dropouts; the HVAC program will add green technology to the curriculum; and cosmetology will implement an intensive study/review component to the final semester to prepare students for licensure testing.

Other issues discussed included the importance of keeping student records updated and accurate including the major field of study.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15.

Respectfully submitted
Sharon Winn, Chair