

COMPASS STEERING COMMITTEE NOTES

October 15, 2003
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
District Office – Board Room

I. Number of Students Tested by Campus

Carla Mathews reported on the number of students tested at each site for Fall 2003.

AH = 1,271 HL = 1,051 OR = 1,560 RO = 1,554 SF = 320

It was also reported that 64 COMPASS and 45 MTELP sessions were offered at Orchard Ridge for the Fall 2003 semester

Doug Riddering indicated that beginning October 20, 2003, Auburn Hills will be providing walk-in COMPASS testing. Appointments will no longer be necessary. Carla Mathews stated that the Deans at the other campuses are trying to implement the same service. Kim Boose from AH noted that there is a problem with walk-in testing because there are not enough Parapros for the IIC and testing labs to handle both areas at once.

II. Report from Orientation Committee

Doug Riddering gave an overview on the suggested format for on-line orientation. This type of orientation will be a read-only format and the information will be provided in short bites and only relevant to registering. All other types of information will be provided by a real live counselor. The suggested format will consist of the following:

- Welcome to OCC with a list of the campuses
- Notice that their admissions application needs to be processed prior to assessment
- Brief explanation of who needs to complete the English and Math assessment
- Explanation of assessment results
- Dates and methods of registration for the upcoming semester
- Reasons/method for seeing a counselor

In addition, a picture of the application, schedule of classes and catalog will be provided. Eight slides are currently ready. Doug noted that the Auburn Hills counseling staff is responsible for this pilot program and it will be shared with the other Counseling Departments.

III. Manipulation of Test Scores

Kelli Van Buren reported that she will be meeting with Katherine Lichtenberg and Marie Aratari to determine what the maximum number of test questions should be on the COMPASS math test. The test currently consists of 12 questions. Chuck Neumann indicated that the Math discipline would like the maximum setting used once it has been determined.

Doug Riddering reported that the following statement under COMPASS Mathematics Placement was missing in the Fall Schedule of Classes and should be put back in:

“Provide an official transcript showing achievement of a grade of C or higher in a college-level mathematics course completed within the preceding 3 years.”

Kim Boose discussed the fact that some of the campuses do not want walk-in testing because the current script is too long and recommended the use of math placement cheat sheets. MaryJo Schuster recommended providing a tape recording of the script instead of reading it. In addition, Kim Boose asked if the script could be condensed and added to the CD orientation disk. Doug Riddering said he would check into the matter.

MaryJo Schuster suggested that if walk-in testing could not be provided continually, maybe it could be done on a limited basis (possibly 1 day a week).

Doug Riddering noted that he would like to change the class description section on the COMPASS English Scores Interpretation for Students form for ENG-1060 and ENG-1050 to read as follows:

“Academic Literacy II – Students testing into ENG-1060 cannot register for any courses prior to seeing a counselor.”

“Academic Literacy I – Students testing into ENG-1051 cannot register for any courses prior to seeing a counselor.”

IV. Removal of 14 Service Areas from Demographics and Demographic Data Review

Carla Mathews reported that she will meet with Sue Bourbeau to follow-up on the matter of removing the 14 service areas from the COMPASS test.

