

## **Science Division 2013-2014 Narrative on goals**

### **1. Increase student success in Science Division courses**

Student success has been a focal point for discussion at many department meetings. The development of the Supplemental Instruction (SI) model has been a key tool in improving success for specific courses in biology (BIOL 201,202, 270) , chemistry (150,151,212,213, some section of 101), and physics (150A, 150B,200,201). Tutors are used to help student success in other courses in the division. The data is currently being evaluated on the success rate for students attending SI sessions compared to those who do not participate.

The Nursing Program has made significant progress on updating the program and improving the success rate on the national exam, NCLEX. A curriculum consultant presented a multi-day workshop for the faculty and the faculty have since been meeting to realign the curriculum. The faculty attended several professional development conferences on nursing education, including one on writing exam questions.

The Psychiatric Technology program continues to offer free exam preparation seminars to students prior to their state exam. Faculty teaching PSYTCH 086 are using a new test book and are revising PowerPoints and exams. PSYTCH 084 has incorporated more material into lecture and dropped an expensive textbook. Their pass rate for the state exam remains one of the highest in the state. The Pharmacy Technology program is working on the upcoming accreditation process.

### **2. Strengthen current partnerships and expand community and school outreach efforts.**

Our faculty have interacted with faculty at our “adopted” schools, Urbita Elementary and Richardson Prep Hi Middle School. Science and Technology day provided workshops for all the eighth graders at Richardson. The Nursing program and Pharm Tech program has participated in outreach events at high schools. Also, the Nursing Program is working with the Adult Education School to create partnerships. The Nursing Director and Assistant Director have participated in many nursing consortium meetings throughout southern California.

### **3. Create a center of learning and an environment rich in opportunities for reflection and study, and discussion.**

Several CTE programs applied for Perkins funding that will start next academic year. This will allow them the ability to provide workshops for students and to purchase equipment. The one-time funding this year helped departments purchase some needed equipment and provide field trips. The biology faculty have worked on expanding the biology gardens and have collaborated with others for a pond in the grounds of the new athletic center. The MSEIP grant brought in speakers for the STEM students. Faculty have participated in professional development opportunities.