San Bernardino Valley College

Basic Skills End-of-Year Progress Report

2013-14

Department(s): _____Library and Learning Support Services_____

Project: __Basic Skills Database Subscription: Learning Express and English Language Learn (ELL)

Name(s) Patti Wall

Check One: □ Completed   x In Progress

List Activities from Proposal:	We offered weekly campus-wide workshops in fall 2013, and specific training to ESL and READ classes which supported the Basic Skills Database Subscriptions: Learning Express and English Language Learner (ELL). Additionally, we placed class-specific links on the library homepage for the classes that had identified themselves as interested in piloting the databases. Notified the campus community regarding Basic Skills funding of the two databases at: In-Service events; Faculty Chair meetings; Student Services Counsel Meetings, and provided Professional Development Training.
Targeted Course(s):	Pilot Classes: ESL 930, ESL 931, ESL 907, READ 915, Math 103 The SBVC Library supports online learning for the campus and desires to enhance their basic skills database offerings with these two database subscriptions, Learning Express and English Language Learner (ELL).
Assessment of Measurable Outcomes/Goals (If project is not completed, identify the date the information will be submitted: Fall 2013 completed. In-process with spring 2014. This is an annual database subscription (7/1/13-6/30/14) _____.	Dirkson Lee, ESL Instructor: Report for Learning Express and English Language Learner Database In the fall 2013 semester, students in the ESL 931 class were required to use the Learning Express program and the English Language Learner (ELL) database during the course of the semester. Students were required to use the Learning Express program a minimum of five times, and the ELL database a minimum of 15 times. Each time that a student used either program, a verification form was completed by the student which specified the program that was used, what the student worked on in the program, and problems that were encountered through the use of the program. During the course of the semester, 15 out of 27 students used the program. Review of the verification forms revealed that out of the 12 students who used the Learning Express program, half of them either expressed that the program and/or subject matter provided in the program was too difficult to use or understand. However, those who were able to successfully use the program indicated that it assisted them with subjects such as math, the GED, vocabulary building, and with reading

comprehension and reading strategies.

The reception of the ELL database was more positive, in that out of the 12 students who used the ELL database, only 2 expressed difficulty in using the program. Students who benefitted from the program expressed that they learned a number of different subjects. In addition, they felt that the subject matter was interesting and they were able to learn new words. A few students even compared the two programs (i.e. Learning Express and ELL database) in which they felt that the ELL database was more appropriate for their skill level.

Although the correlation between use of the program and student performance is may not be clearly delineated, grade comparison between the ESL 931 courses of fall 2013 and fall 2012 indicated that the fall 2013 students who were provided with additional resources such as the Learning Express program and the ELL database performed much better overall than students in the fall 2012 semester who were not provided with the computerized resources.

The following is a breakdown of the final grades that students received in the fall 2012 versus the fall 2013 ESL classes.

Table 1.

Fall 2012	Fall 2013
A = 1	A = 6
B = 10	B = 6
C = 10	C = 10
D = 4	D = 2
F = 2	F = 3

N=27   N=27

The data in Table 1 show that roughly the same number of students in the fall 2012 and fall 2013 passed the ESL 931 class. However, the students in the fall 2013 semester passed with higher grades overall than students in the fall 2012 semester.

Based on the personal testimony as well as a rough grade comparison between the two semesters, it indicates that there may be a correlation between increased student performance and the use of the Learning Express and ELL database programs. However, between these two programs, the ELL database program seems to be more applicable for the skill level of ESL 931 students.

	<u>Magda Jacobo, Reading Instructor:</u> Recently reported that her students had some difficulties and determined not be a part of the Pilot courses. <u>Stephanie Briggs, Math Instructor:</u> "During both Summer '13 and Spring '14 semesters, my students and I have used resources obtained from Learning Express. For the summer 2013 Math 103 course, I used Trigonometry 20 Minutes a Day as a supplemental workbook to accompany the online Math 103 e-book. Presently, I am using the same supplemental workbook, accessed through Learning Express, to refresh my Pre-Calculus students with trigonometry topics that are pertinent to the study of Calculus. The Summer'13 Trigonometry course had an initial enrollment of 40 students. After attrition, no shows and drops, there were 32 students enrolled in the course. By the end of the course, 29 students had persisted. The overall student average for the Math 103 course was 82.52 percent and the median final grade was 85.35 percent. One student earned a 98.8% grade for the course. I believe that having the Learning Express supplemental resources helped students master the concepts." <u>Top 10 Topics Used in Learning Express</u> 1. Writing Skills Improvement 2. U.S. Citizenship Preparation 3. College Placement Preparation 4. Math and Reasoning Skills Improvement 5. Reading Comprehension Skills Improvement 6. Vocabulary and spelling Skills Improvement 7. GED Practice Exams 8. Job Search, Resumes, and Interviewing 9. Nursing 10. GED Preparation Courses <u>English Language Learner (ELL)use from 7/1/13-12/31/13</u> Searches: 1,041 Total full-text articles retrieved: 966 Nov. 2013 saw the highest usage: 435 searches
Detailed List of Expenditures to date and projected expenditures, identifying a date, for conclusion of project. (Include a discussion for each expenditure addressing the link each had to student success.)	Approved Funding: $4,897.00 Purchased through CCLC (Community College Library Consortium) Learning Express: $3,795 ELL (English Language Learner: $1,102 Projected cost: Anticipate a small increase to the cost of these two subscription databases.
Are you requesting funds for the next academic year? If so, briefly explain the purpose of your	We are requesting funds for the next academic year. The purpose is to continue offering these two databases, Learning Express and English Language Learner, to students and the campus community to support

project and identify the amount you would be requesting.	their learning success. The databases products support not only basic skills students, but also instructional and tutoring services that the campus offers. Additional benefits to the students are that they can access these resources from their home or other campus locations with Internet connection. Faculty and staff involved with basic skill students are able to use these databases either as supplemental or primary instructional material, or students can work independently. It is anticipated that the cost will increase and be more than last year's request of $4,897.00. We are waiting on the Community College Library Consortium (CCLC) to announce the cost for next year's subscription.
If you have requested funding for an ongoing project, are you identifying other sources of funding (ex: program review)?	Basic Skills is the only funding source we are using to subscribe to Learning Express and English Language Learner (ELL).