DARE Meeting Highlights 6.1.2011 (See meeting minutes for more details)

The 6/15/2011 DARE meeting will be the last meeting of the year. At that meeting, we would like to get a confirmation of who will be continuing next year.

We will plan for a retreat with the task force members and faculty teaching in basic skills areas in the summer. Possible dates will be at the end of July or August.

The RP group SSS conference in Fall 2011: Rowena encouraged task force members who are submitting proposals to let Bhavi or Rowena know what their plans are and if they need any help. Attendance at the RP conference is prioritized with DARE task force members first and then to the basic skills departments and student service areas.

Open House Debrief and future recommendations: Although we had a slightly lower attendance than last year, the event went well because of the student stories and interaction. Great team-work in organizing the event. Display boards were a great idea. It was good to have the questions brainstormed in DARE. Future recommendations include: watch out for conflicts with other campus events, capture the event in a video and then screen it afterwards, gather display boards from all the programs we’ve funded, Keep it intimate by only using one of the conference rooms, offer a DARE workshop at the college’s opening day.

Banner implementation of Pre-requisites: The task force discussed banner implementation of pre-requisites and how they will impact enrollment and our students in terms of pathways. Initially all of the pre-requisites were scheduled to be reinforced in Fall 2011 but that is too much at once because of structural issues that need to be addressed and processes that need to be mapped out. So the curriculum committee has decided to stagger the implementation over the year. The DARE taskforce would come into all of this if we need to fund some temporary staffing to help with the pre-requisites enforcement especially for the divisions that have BSI courses.

Assessment of the DARE Task force: the task discussed ideas and questions for an assessment instrument to evaluate the work of the taskforce itself this year. Some of the questions that came up include:

- What questions do the members have about what we’ve been funding?
- how are we doing with outreach?
- how are we doing with members functioning as ambassadors to advocate for basic skills students?
- what about the meeting times? Location? Should we rotate the meeting time so that we get more members on board?
- Do we measure it based on the dollars per student spent, student success rate? staff competency? Staff awareness of what we are doing? Title III is very specific with the grant objectives. BSI is general with the BSI action plan. We
can start with the BSI action plan. How did we do in 2010-2011 relative to the BSI action plan?

- How can we expand the cohort model that is working well? Several ideas about expanding or centralizing the cohort model were discussed including issues/structural limitations such as the logistics of scheduling; making sure that faculty can get the classrooms for the team teaching that goes on, the registration process, outreach, follow up with students, release time or faculty development, compensation issues and coordination issues. It was suggested that DARE should write a position paper on the cohort and use the data in IPBT. For the paper, look at the cohorts retreat as there were a lot of good ideas that came out of that retreat about expanding what we are doing.