

## Progress Update (Past Two Years) - Academic Affairs

1. Provide an update on your program or department's progress on your last objectives or action plans:

Progress Update Past Action Plans

### Progress Update Past Action Plans

What type of program review did you last submit?

- Old annual
- Old six-year
- PU
- CPR

What is the status of your last program review action plan/objective?

- Completed
- In Progress
- No Longer Pursuing

Discuss the progress made on the goals in your action plan(s) (if last program review was a PU or CPR) or annual objective(s) (if last program review was an annual or old six-year).

Our last Program Review had seven objectives/goals for the near future. Below are those objectives and our updates.

*Objective #1: Continue to create multiple levels for sports and fitness classes that currently have only one or two levels (Water Polo, Track and Field, Boxing for fitness, self-defense, and an intermediate level for the Fitness Center: Kin PE 10)*

Update: We have created four levels for water polo, track and field, a fourth level of yoga, and have a second level of Boxing for Fitness in progress. We are working on a second level of women's self-defense. We have decided to create an open hours class for KIN PE 10 so students can have more freedom as to when they work out. We have had many requests from students to use the facilities but for reasons pertaining to liability, they need to enroll in a class.

*Objective #2: Continue to investigate the discrepancies between our department statistics and the College's with regards to the lack of females in our team sports and Weight Training classes.*

Update: Weight training classes seem to have more females enrolling. Over the last year, about 43% were women. This is an improvement from past years. Soccer classes are still largely male students although volleyball classes maintain a fairly even mix of men and women. It seems that certain sports and instructors attract female students. On the VAR PE side, our VAR PE 11 classes were only 27% female. Of the 188 students that were enrolled in the strength and conditioning courses for student athletes, only 51 were women.

*Objective #3: Begin to research the data necessary to support the addition of new AA degrees and certificates. We have begun to discuss the addition of a Sports Management degree/certificate, Aquatics training certificates, Yoga Teacher, Personal Trainer certificates, and others.*

Update: We have been in contact with other community colleges that have Pilates and Yoga teacher training certificates. We have all of the course work for those certificates completed and ready to go through curriculum in the fall. We are working with Strong Workforce to get our Labor Market Information, apply to have the certificates in the region and create an advisory board. We should have this completed in the summer.

Faculty are starting work on the Aquatics certificate and sports management certificate.

*Objective #4: Continue to create multiple levels of our fitness courses to address the repeatability of our courses. Pilates is extremely popular. We are planning to add three more levels so students can continue to take part in this activity. We recently created two levels of Pickle Ball and are planning to offer it for the first time in Fall 2021. We will need two more levels.*

Update: We have created a second level of Pickle Ball and are working on two more. We have just purchased equipment to offer indoor classes since we had issues with the city of Santa Monica and getting court time. We are offering our first indoor class this fall. It is an evening class that is almost full.

Objective #5: *Develop a systematic and streamlined way to track our curriculum updates on an annual basis.*

The campus wide initiative to work on SLOs will facilitate this for us.

Objective #6: *Develop a list of potential Department name changes to better reflect and market our role on campus.*

Update: This is still in progress.

Objective #7: *Explore options to increase access for students to our fitness center. Hybrid courses with flexible time options to complete required hours or open hours in the Fitness Center for students to complete their required time. This might include opening the facility in the evenings and/or weekends.*

Update: As discussed above, there is a liability issue with having open hours for students. We are exploring the creation of an open hours class. This was the way KIN PE 10 was originally created. Students enrolled in a section of the class but could attend on various days. They would clock in at the desk and accrue hours. They had to meet a specific number of participation hours and pass three exams. We will need to find a way to satisfy Academic Affairs enrollment requirements for multiple sections.

#### End of Progress Update Past Action Plans

2. Considering your program's past plans and the developments over the past two years, what challenges and concerns need to be addressed in the next two-year review period?

#### **Full Time Faculty:**

Our department is in need of full time faculty. Presently there are six full-time faculty, of which five teach KIN, Health or PRO CR courses, (one is the Dept Chair) and of the 5 there is only 1 faculty that has a 100% teaching assignment (generalist). The others coach a sport and teach for their assignments. To expand on the KIN academic courses that are currently offered there must be faculty that can teach the classes and that is currently not the case. Having faculty that can teach the academic courses (KIN 3, KIN 4, PRO CR 25, PRO CR 26) would

create the opportunity to offer additional sections, modalities, and day/time offerings. Our International Students office is going to begin denying visas for F-1 students that want to be in our Athletic Coaching certificate program as we cannot meet the on ground/in person needs of the students.

Our three full time requests this spring are for a head coach for volleyball, head coach for track and field and a Kinesiology instructor. The head coaching positions would be for at least two teams each. The track coach could also work with one of the two cross country teams. These coaches would over see intercollegiate programs that require recruiting, traveling all over California, budgeting, fundraising, working daily with students to stay on track academically, training, helping them to move on to four-year institutions, and so much more. Student athletes on these teams would benefit as their coach would be available and accessible through out the year to them.

Having another FT generalist would make it possible to offer all of our certificate classes on ground and allow us to move forward with a Sports Medicine certificate. This is something the department has discuss for the last few years as well as a human performance and wellness lab/center at SMC.

#### **Athletic Training**

The athletics department currently has one full-time athletic trainer and one part-time athletic trainer to provide medical care for 18 intercollegiate teams and support over 250+ year-round. The California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA) requires athletic training supervision for all inter-collegiate practices and classes. They are responsible for conducting preseason physicals, injury treatment and rehabilitation, and concussion baseline testing to comply with the health and safety guidelines established

by the CCCAA and the CCCAA Athletic Trainers Association. Athletic trainers provide medical coverage inter-collegiate competitions that are sanctioned by the California Community College Athletic Association.

Our athletic training staff is responsible for monitoring weekly physician clinics on Wednesdays with team physicians and medical residents that treats injured and concussed athletes throughout the year. In addition, athletic trainers are responsible for daily reporting of injuries and referrals to medical facilities, medical testing, and coordinating surgeries for our injured athletes in addition to their regular scheduled duties. The athletic trainers are required to provide athletic training supervision for all home/hosted athletic contests and away football games.

Based on the Appropriate Medical Coverage of Intercollegiate Athletics our athletic training staff should be staffed with 3.5. The current staffing profile impacts our ability to provide the required services for our student-athletes. The staffing profile has also impacted the athletics overtime budget.

### **Human Performance Lab:**

A human performance lab would provide applied, hands-on experience for KIN certificates like the Fitness Specialist and Sports Medicine. Student-athletes would have access to physiological(evidence) based training, in addition to strength and conditioning. The goal would be to optimize conditioning through data as well as minimize chronic injuries. This would also provide an opportunity for students in the certificate programs to gain experience. An option would be to expand the services to the community as a non-credit course or fee-based access. It could also be an opportunity to conduct research and publish outcomes. This could also be a cross-program venture with Health Sciences or Nutrition depending on the level of services that are offered.

### **Athletic Locker Rooms**

The athletic facilities has three locker rooms that provide changing areas for the SMC athletic teams. There are not any dedicated locker rooms for visiting teams. The visiting teams are required to use available classroom space in the Core Performance Center or the math complex. The demolition of the math complex will eliminate our ability to provide changing spaces for the visiting teams.

### **Collaborate with other programs for new course development and certificates:**

There is so much natural overlap of our areas and the opportunity to recruit and retain students with innovative course offerings. For example, a health and wellness class for Health care professionals, an injury care and prevention class for Dance majors, or a teaching movement and activity class for Early Childhood education majors.

At most colleges, the dance, nutrition, and health sciences work closely with Kinesiology.

That is not the case at SMC. Over the past years our faculty have made multiple attempts to co-write new classes with or co-teach (even co-list) courses with these departments with no success. The nutrition department teaches a class (NUT 4) which is Nutrition for Sports Performance and their faculty have an entire portion of the course about exercise. They bring this class onto our facilities, yet our faculty with exercise science degrees have been told that they do not have the expertise to teach this course.

### **Certificates:**

The creation of new certificates at SMC is costly but provides our students with skills that can lead to viable employment in less than 2-years. Our curriculum will prepare the students for national accredited certifications. Pilates and yoga teacher trainings are expensive and often not available to all socioeconomic groups. Our program would enable diverse students to bring yoga and Pilates to their communities.

The initial on boarding of a program can be slow to grow. We will need Academic Affairs to support us as we start these teacher training programs.

### **Data:**

Precision Campus shows NO Kinesiology majors since 2017. We are aware of many students that have completed our certificate program, AA in Athletic Coaching and our AA-T in Kinesiology. We need

Institutional Research to track our KIN majors so that we can support them.

### Considerations for KIN program impact with implementation of CAL-GETC:

In Fall 2024, the AB 928 will go into effect, which will remove Area E (Self-development and Lifelong learning) as a requirement for transfer to CSU and UC's. Most KIN and Health courses fall under Area E. Will these courses remain a local requirement at SMC? If not, what is the probability of course like KIN 3 and KIN 4 counting in the other areas of CAL-GETC? How will this impact enrollment in courses like Health 10 or KIN 2 over the next couple of years? Will this be considered by Academic Affairs when KIN/Health/PRO CR sections are impacted and then the department will be pressured to cut more sections without possibility of re-growing them.

3. Broadly discuss the most critical resources you anticipate needing to effectively implement the goals in your program's action plan in the next review period. If applicable, your answers here should inform the specific line item requests in your future Annual Resource Requests (ARR).

As listed above, the department is in need of resources to begin our teacher training programs, full-time faculty, better data, support as we enter into AB 928, etc.

There are other needs that overlap with our Athletics program. We are a unique department that houses an academic discipline and a program. One side oversees intercollegiate competition and the other oversees the academic aspect of Kinesiology. These overlap when a class (in-season, pre-season and off-season) is for an intercollegiate team. We share facilities, faculty, support staff, and equipment.

One team that is in desperate need of assistance is our women's softball program. We have decided to focus on them in this report because they are in dire need of assistance.

The SMC Softball Program was supposed to be getting a new field as part of the Memorial Expansion/ Build at Memorial Park. Planning for this project began in 2019 We helped with the design/field layout so that the diamond dimensions fit all the legal requirements to play competitive softball at the collegiate level as well as high school and recreational level. Unfortunately we are still waiting. SMC has pledged \$20 million dollars for this project but nothing has happened. The city is experiencing financial difficulties and has not moved on the project.

In the mean time, our practice field and home games are played at John Adams Middle School (JAMS). We are the ONLY college team in southern California that plays on a middle school field. As you can imagine, this comes with many challenges for us. First, despite having permits for our allotted field time, nearly every practice our coach is asking parents, kids and soccer club coaches to stay off the field during our permitted time. This is a very dangerous situation and an accident waiting happen. When we are having live batting, practice balls are being hit into our outfield that is unprotected and accessible to any parent and child. Recently an elderly man on crutches was walking through our practice area. Parents let their small children run around in our outfield. Again, it's only a matter of time till there is a serious incident.

Santa Monica College is the ONLY college softball team in our conference or any other team we compete against, that doesn't have batting cages. Not only would this help our athletes tremendously at practices to improve their hitting mechanics, but it is a CCCAA requirement that visiting teams have access to cages before games. We can only offer practice bow nets that we erect before each game. This is not a valid substitute for the cages.

Not only are our athletes at a disadvantage, it's embarrassing. Even the local high school has batting cages. Our coach has been trying to get a batting cage built at JAMS for years. She has filled out all the paper work multiple times, met with people to get it installed and still no cage. She has contacted the company that built the cages at Memorial for Samohi, assembled quotes including all material and equipment needed and passed it along. Building a cage means installing just two walls of fencing in the corner of the field.

The team also need an outfield portable fence. This is set up for games to mark the end of the out field. The one we currently use has broken poles, has a gap of at least 10" from the bottom of the fence to the grass so

that any ground ball just rolls straight under and the umpire has to stop the game.

We don't have access to proper change rooms or toilets at the field instead we have one "Porta potty" that is too small to change in. Our female student athletes deserve a place to change into their uniforms.

There isn't a proper scoreboard at JAMS. We have to use a small portable electronic one that sits on the ground that only shows the score, not ball and strikes, or innings. Other schools have softball score boards.

The team needs shade cloths for the top of our dugouts to protect the athletes from the sun, for both us and the visiting team. These are inexpensive and could be easily installed.

Lastly, there isn't a flag anywhere in sight for the playing of the national anthem.

While this seems like a long list there are many items that would require minimal funding to solve. The batting cage is essentially two sides of fencing attached to existing fences, with a gate to enter. We are doing our best to create a collegiate like atmosphere for our student athletes, but we are falling short and they deserve better.

Despite our current circumstances, this year alone the team will have 5 graduating sophomores. One is accepting a job in her chosen field with an Associated degree in Photography. The other 4 have been accepted by multiple colleges with scholarship offers, including UC Berkley, UCLA, UC Davis, UC Santa Barbra, CSU Long Beach, UC Santa Cruz and CSU Dominguez. They are in the process of choosing where they will go next.

These women are incredible student athletes. Our next team should not have to put up with mediocrity when they always strive for greatness. They deserve a decent field with all of the basics: shade, outfield fence, restrooms, batting cage, score board, etc.

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This form is completed and ready for acceptance.