2020 Annual Program Review

Program Name: Black Collegians Program Umoja Community

Program Review Author: Sherri Bradford

I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: In one or two paragraphs, provide a description of the primary goals of your program or service area. Attach an appendix to describe your program or service area in more detail, if needed.

Note: If no changes have occurred, feel free to copy and paste from your last review. If it exists, feel free to copy the brief description of your program from the college catalog: http://www.smc.edu/CollegeCatalog/Pages/default.aspx

The Black Collegians Program was developed in 1989 because of President/Superintendent Dr. Richard Moore's concern over the low transfer rate of African American students. Dr. Moore asked Deyna Hearn, a member of the Counseling Department at the time, to develop a program with a mission to improve student retention and increase the transfer rate among SMC's African descent students.

The program provides a series of support services to assist in meeting not only the academic needs of our students but also the emotional and personal needs. We provide academic/personal counseling; mental health services; workshops; activities; math tutoring; leadership opportunities; book vouchers; special classes; and priority enrollment as a multiprong approach to assisting students with greatly needed support in navigating the college system.

II. PROGRESS SINCE LAST REVIEW (LAST YEAR'S OBJECTIVES)

Identify the original objectives from your last review, as well as any objectives that emerged during the year (if applicable). For each objective, determine status and explanation for status.

Objective	PStatus (Check one)	Status Explanation
To increase the number of Black Collegians students who obtain their AA degree as part of the Vision for Success Goals.	☐ Not Completed ☒ In Progress ☐ Completed	This is an ongoing objective for the program.
Partnering with the Transfer Center Faculty Leader to increase opportunities and experiences for Black Collegians with the goal of increasing the number of students who apply and are accepted to four-year schools	☐ Not Completed ☒ In Progress ☐ Completed	We had begun the process of planning workshops, some of which we did in the remote environment, that had a focus on increasing awareness of what it takes to transfer and 2) for those who are transferring in the fall, what to plan for at the transfer institution
Click or tap here to enter text.	☐ Not Completed ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed	Click or tap here to enter text.
Click or tap here to enter text.	☐ Not Completed ☐ In Progress ☐ Completed	Click or tap here to enter text.

III. ACHIEVEMENTS

(**Optional**) List any notable achievements your program accomplished in the last year.

1. We were the recipient of a $326,000 donation. This is the largest single donation that the program has ever

received and it is unrestricted funding to utilize to supplement program services and needs for students. The entire amount is not available for use but was established as an endowment. We were able to have $25,000 available this year for immediate use. Each year, we will be able to use the interest that is accrued from it.

2. We were the recipient of an Umoja grant in the amount of $16,000. Funding was utilized to provide t-shirts and backpacks for all program members; provide food for various activities; and provision of perks for those students who attended the Math Therapy weekly sessions.

3. We were able to add an additional therapist to the services for both Black Collegians and Adelante Program students to now have a total of two therapists providing 36 hours per week of services. The additional therapist is courtesy of a grant and collaboration with Susan Fila, Director of the Center for Wellness and Wellbeing.

4. Embarked on a new collaboration with USC and our STEM students. We are one of three colleges and the only community college to be involved in working with students who are interested in the intelligence field.

5. Hosted the Umoja Regional Coordinators Meeting in November and was able to provide coordinators with a tour of our space in the new Student Services Center. Also, during our Umoja Site visit by our Regional Coordinator – received rave reviews and acknowledged as a model program statewide.

6. Hosted an alumni workshop where several of our prominent Black Collegians alums were able to speak to Black Collegians students and hosted a reception in our new office space in the Student Services Center.

7. The Art Department initiated a multi-pronged collaboration that involved several events/activities: a) A field trip hosted by Art Department Chairperson Walter Meyer and Art History Faculty Member Kaelyn Rodriguez which included a private tour of the UCLA Fowler Museum; a tour of the UCLA campus and prominent locations related to Black history; and a lunch with UCLA Art Department representatives; b) a collaboration between the Black Collegians students and Art Department faculty to create art panels that were on display on the quad; 3) Kaelyn Rodriguez was a guest speaker on Latinx and African American history in our Pan-African Day on the quad co-sponsored by Associated Students.

IV. CURRENT PLANNING AND RESOURCE NEEDS

Part 1: Narrative
   Broadly discuss issues or needs impacting program effectiveness for which institutional support or resources will be needed for the next academic/fiscal year.

Like most departments, we are challenged with how to engage our students in this remote environment. We are offering opportunities to connect via zoom in the 2020-2021 year (workshops, club meetings, counseling, group sessions led by therapist, tutoring) but we continue to have concerns about the level of engagement for our students who are accustomed to and need the in-person contact. We are looking for any professional development opportunities that speak to specific needs of Black students and best practices for engaging students in this remote environment.

Part 2: List of Resources Needed

Itemize the specific resources you will need to improve the effectiveness of your program, including resources and support you will need to accomplish your objectives for next year.

While this information will be reviewed and considered in institutional planning, the information does not supplant the need to request support or resources through established channels and processes.

Resource Category	Resource Description/Item	Rationale for Resource Need (Including Link to Objective)
Human Resources	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Facilities *(info inputted here will be given to DPAC Facilitates Comm.)*	N/A	Click or tap here to enter text.

Equipment, Technology, Supplies *(tech inputted here will be given to Technology Planning Committee)*	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Professional Development	Workshops/webinars to assist us in learning best practices for keeping Black students engaged in a remote environment.	It has been a challenge to engage our students at the level that we were able to when we were on ground in participation with remote activities. Our concern is that these students experience the most systematic inequities in their educational experience. We are constantly thinking about ways to ensure that they not only get the information that they need to be successful in their academic goals and quest for AA degree attainment and transfer, but that they are also feeling connected to the program staff and other program students to gain the support that they most definitely need.

V. CHALLENGES RELATED TO SPRING 2020 COVID-19 CRISIS AND RESPONSE:

List significant challenges your program faced in Spring 2020 due to COVID-19. Please also Include your responses and solutions to this crisis.

This program has been able to meet many of the emotional and personal needs of students through our in-person contact with them. Students have expressed that they feel welcomed and supported in our space; they have been able to connect with one another through being in the center and through the club meetings and workshops that we offer. Moving to a remote environment has been a huge challenge to keep our students connected. Though we offered some remote activities (workshops, Canvas chats), the numbers of students who attended those events was significantly reduced from what we normally have when we were in person.

We continue to plan activities/workshops/opportunities for the Fall 2020 for them to connect and learn in this remote environment. But as mentioned before, we have serious concerns about how to do this effectively.

VI. THE NEXT SECTION IS FOR CTE PROGRAMS ONLY

PARTNERSHIPS:

Part 1: Industry advisory meeting dates and attendance for 2019-2020.

Date of Meeting	# of SMC Attendees	# of Non-SMC Attendees
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Part 2: Employer partnerships/collaborations for 2019-2020. Identify the most salient partnerships or collaborations.

Employer Name	Type of partnership or Collaboration • **Advisory attendance** • **Internship site** • **Donations** • **Job placement** • **Other**	Optional: Additional information about partnership or collaboration
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CONGRATULATIONS – that's it! Please save your document with your program's name and forward it to your area Vice President for review.

The following section will be completed by your program's area VP

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<mark>Vice Presidents:</mark>

First, please let us know who you are by checking your name:
☐ Christopher Bonvenuto, Vice President, Business and Administration
☐ Don Girard, Senior Director, Government Relations & Institutional Communications
☐ Sherri Lee-Lewis, Vice President, Human Resources
☐ Jennifer Merlic, Vice President, Academic Affairs
☐ Teresita Rodriguez, Vice President, Enrollment Development
☒ Michael Tuitasi, Vice President, Student Affairs

☐ Next, please check this box to indicate that you have reviewed the program's annual report Provide any feedback and comments for the program here:

Click or tap here to enter text; the box will expand when you enter text.

Finally, please **save the document** and email it to both Stephanie Amerian (amerian_stephanie@smc.edu) and Erica LeBlanc (leblanc_erica@smc.edu). If you have any questions, please contact us!

Thank you for your input!