Moving Guided Pathways Forward

Friday, April 26, 2019, 12:00 to 4:00 pm, F5-201 (MPR)

This event is co-sponsored by the President’s Office, Academic Senate, ELAC Foundation, and Office of Professional Development. Additional support provided by the ELAC Guided Pathways Facilitators.
Welcome & Opening Remarks

College President Marvin Martinez

Guided Pathways Steering Committee Co-Chairs:
  o Armida Ornelas, Vice President of Continuing Education and Workforce Development
  o Jeff Hernandez, Academic Senate President
Keeping the Student in Mind: Guided Pathways—Why It Matters for Vision for Success

- Special Guest: Rob Rundquist, Senior Executive, Guided Pathways, California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office
Keeping the Student in Mind: Meta-Majors

Why Meta-Majors?

Many of our students feel lost in a maze.
Keeping the Student in Mind: Meta-Majors

Why Meta-Majors?

Community college students find choosing a major a daunting task*:

► Difficulty in choosing a major was identified as a barrier to finishing on time.

► Students attributed the difficulty in choosing a major to few opportunities to explore careers and understand how majors link with different careers.

► Most students felt taking courses was not a helpful strategy for career exploration.

The challenge in finding a clear path to a degree or certificate helps explain why many students never complete.

* Based on research from the Career Ladders Project
Keeping the Student in Mind: Meta-Majors

Why Meta-Majors?

For every 100 students who entered in Fall 2014, after 3 years at ELAC...*:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>53</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>16</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>took classes in Fall 2015</td>
<td>completed 30 UC/CSU units</td>
<td>completed BOTH transfer-level English and Math</td>
<td>completed a certificate, degree or skill certificate</td>
<td>completed 60 UC/CSU units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Fall 2017 Campus Forum—The Guided Pathways Approach
Keeping the Student in Mind: Meta-Majors

Why Meta-Majors?

FOR EVERY 100 **LATINA/O** STUDENTS WHO ENTERED IN FALL 2014, AFTER 3 YEARS AT ELAC...*:

- 52 took classes in Fall 2015
- 16 completed 30 UC/CSU units
- 11 completed BOTH transfer-level English and Math
- 7 completed a certificate, degree or skill certificate
- 1 completed 60 UC/CSU units

* Fall 2017 Campus Forum—The Guided Pathways Approach
Meta-majors are a cluster of academic programs grouped together by common or related courses or occupations from a student’s lens. Instead of searching through hundreds of majors, students select 5 to 10 meta-majors to help focus choices by students’ interests at the start of their college journey.

Meta-majors can help our students succeed:

- Simplify program options for students
- Provide data and information to message students
- Educate students about the “end”
- Guide exploration through on-boarding process and after
- Reconstruct discussions across disciplines, counseling, and student services with the student’s end in mind
Keeping the Student in Mind: Meta-Majors

ELAC Meta-Majors 1.0

ELAC’s path towards meta-majors began in spring 2018

► Guided Pathways Faculty Facilitators conducted outreach to departments, programs, & committees

► Interest was expressed for pursuing meta-majors, academic maps, and other elements for Guided Pathways redesign

► At college forums, feedback was received on priorities for Redesigning ELAC and the first priorities listed were academic mapping and identifying meta-majors

► Along the way, during Opening Day, and after, volunteers were recruited to participate as Guided Pathways Ambassadors, including on meta-major and data work teams
Keeping the Student in Mind: Meta-Majors

ELAC Meta-Majors 1.0

Broad-based involvement from September 2018 to February 2019 through meta-major card sorting days

- A meta-major card sorting day is a 2 hour group activity used to gather data. Each group had a stack of cards with every degree, certificate, and program of study offered at ELAC. Together, they grouped the cards together in an effort to create meta-major clusters from a student’s perspective.

- Card sorting days were held on the main campus, South Gate campus, Rosemead Center (Adult Ed. Students), and at two high schools.

- In total, there were 80 card sorts, i.e., tables, at 19 card sorting days with 543 participants comprised of faculty, students, administrators, and staff.
Keeping the Student in Mind: Meta-Majors
ELAC Meta-Majors 1.0

We are close to finalizing our first version of meta-majors

- The Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Advancement, the Guided Pathways Facilitators, and Meta-Major/Data Work Team volunteers analyzed tons of data and developed recommendations for clustering programs.

- The Guided Pathways Steering Committee recommended seven program clusters to the Academic Senate, which is scheduled to give final approval at its May 14 meeting.
The meta-major decision making is an inclusive, deliberative, and iterative process.

After reviewing a data-driven process for choosing cluster names, the Guided Pathways Steering Committee voted to ask the Senate to approve cluster names, following additional input, at its May 28 meeting to have as a placeholder for displaying in Program Mapper and with the understanding the names will be subject to more input in fall 2019.

The guiding principle throughout the process has been to develop meta-majors that make sense from a student’s lens.
Just like developing Meta-Majors 1.0, moving forward will be guided by data and adaptable based on deliberation.

► The Guided Pathways Steering Committee will need to recommend to the Academic Senate the processes for updating the meta-major clusters as well as steps to undertake for Meta-Majors version 2.0.

► We still need to consider the opportunities for making the most of meta-majors by linking them to
  
  o Strategic Enrollment Management,
  o Student Equity,
  o completion coaching and case management,
  o and other components of Guided Pathways re-design
Brainstorming about Meta-Majors

Adopt a Meta-Major Cluster

1. On your table, there is a draft meta-major cluster of programs and preliminary survey data on cluster names. Take a few minutes to answer the following prompts on a post-it note:
   
   a) What cluster name do you feel students would identify with the most?
   
   b) What ideas could you suggest for inter-departmental collaboration, e.g., scheduling?
   
   c) What are some related careers that appear to follow under this metamajor?

2. Next, converse with your neighbors in response to the prompts.

3. Collectively, try to answer each of the prompts. Write out your answers on the huge post-it pad and be ready to share.

💡 Select someone to be a note-taker and someone else to report out.
Keeping the Student in Mind: Transforming Lives Campaign

- Paul De La Cerda, Executive Director, ELAC Foundation, and Dean of Resource Economic Development & Innovation

- Certificate of Appreciation
Concluding Remarks

Thank You!!