Inclusive Education: Full Integration into community college classes and programs

FOR
STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

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Vision at Sacramento City College

- Integrating students with intellectual disabilities
- Pilot in-class tutor model
- Build foundation prior to vocational model
- Vocational classes leading to job skills
- Time limited-fully developed program
- Graduation to community job placement programs or to WorkAbility III
Initiative for Project

- Faculty initiated discussion at Academic Senate
- Students with intellectual disabilities attend SCC in growing numbers (44% increase 2003-2008-105 students)
- Students with intellectual disabilities enjoy full inclusion in K-12; parents and students expect such opportunities in post-secondary
- Developed task force of basic skills instructors (math and English), DSPS counselors, Learning Disability instructors, art instructors
- Researched models internationally
Faculty Involvement at SCC
Starting in 2007

- Volunteer instructors after presentation to department meeting- from basic English Reading and English Writing classes

- Fall 2007- 3 class sections, Spring- 3 class sections, Fall 2008- 5 class sections (word of mouth), meeting with Math Basic Skills contact

- Handpicked in-class tutors (student assistants and classified temps)-trained by DSPS faculty and paid by DSPS budget

- Regular meetings with the instructors and the tutors to review progress and needs

- Trained all tutors with techniques for teaching students with disabilities
Challenges

- Data of disabilities is confusing - Individualized Education Plan from high schools may indicate Specific Learning Disability, but once tested may be Intellectually Disabled per Community College model.

- Dual diagnosis students may include Intellectual Disabilities, but the primary disability may be something else, so not always clearly tracked.

- No baseline comparing DSPS students prior to this.

- Tracking students with intellectual disabilities in classes, identifying classes in which they are currently enrolled.
Benefits

- Instructors and tutors loved the project. Reported they had never had such a high retention rate.
- Benefit to non-DSPS students as well as DSPS.
Current Status 2011

• No DSPS funding for in-class tutors-
  ○ Model was adopted by our Basic Skills Initiative- so many math and English classes have in-class tutors

• Pilot grant from SCC Foundation
  ○ Students with intellectual disabilities
  ○ Students on autism spectrum
  ○ Education coaches
  ○ Monitoring DSPS counselor
Support Services in Inclusive Education Model

- Counseling
- Education Plans
- Accommodations
  - Extra time on tests,
  - Tape recorder in classroom
  - Shared notes
  - Books downloadable to I-pods
  - Priority registration
  - Human Career Development classes in math, English and study skills
  - Assistive Technology
One-on-one support
- Meet weekly or more often with student
- Review class syllabi and monitor due dates, assignments, test dates
- Teach and introduce to campus resources (tutoring, library, cafeteria, book loans, health center, clubs)
- Monitor academic progress with the student
- Remind and support use of accommodations
- Assist with socialization
- Link with DSPS counselor
- Assist with communication with instructor
Next Steps for SCC

- College to Career Project to start in May 2011
  - Full time Coordinator/Counselor
  - 7 education coaches
  - Add career planning and work experience
  - Links to job placement services