**ESOL Department Meeting Minutes**

**March 1, 2016**

**1. Survey of Evening Students**

The survey of evening students is complete and the link to the Google form will be sent out to evening instructors shortly.

David would like all evening instructors to give the survey in class as a class so that someone is there to explain the questions and help with the survey.  In other words, don’t just give students the link to the survey and ask them to do it for homework because they probably won’t do it.  Either have students do it together in class using their smartphones, or have them do it the next time you take them to the computer lab.

Teachers can give their students paper versions of the survey, but then they would have to enter all the students’ answers in the Google form so results are tallied properly.

The deadline for giving the survey is April 29.

**2. Developing ESOL Pathways from Adult School to Community College**

Lisa, Suzan, Beth and Steve are meeting with representatives from adult schools and community based organizations from around Alameda County every two weeks to develop plans and pathways for (potential) English language learners to go from adult schools to community colleges.  These pathways may include non-credit English classes as well as career-based classes, such as the Early Childhood Education Certificate that Lisa and Beth developed for Merritt College.

**3. Oakland International High School**

Lisa has met with representatives from OIHS. We are going to offer classes on their campus for concurrently enrolled high school students. To be offered next fall: Intermediate Reading/Writing (ESL 222).  Not sure about days or times yet.

Some Laney instructors already have OIHS students in their classes now.

The classes on their campus will act as a bridge between OIHS and Laney.  We hope that if the high school students continue taking R/W classes (intermediate, advanced) while still in high school, they’ll be ready for English 1A by the time they start college---here!

Our classes will group students by language level, not age/high school class.

Other international high schools could want us to do the same thing-Fremont for example. This could help with Laney’s enrollment issues.

**4. The Lake Merritt - Senior Residence Conversation Tandem**

A group of our ESOL students have been visiting and conversing with the residents of The Lake Merritt Senior Residence every Friday morning since October.  Joanna, the manager of the residence, wanted to arrange a press release, so Peralta TV came to film the event on February 19. Stay tuned for the YouTube video link.

David has the names of other senior residences in Oakland.  Christine knows a contact at St. Paul’s Towers on the other side of the lake.  Other senior residences we could contact are: Lake Park Retirement Residence and Grand Lake Gardens, which are both farther than the Lake Merritt Residence.  Would the students be interested in trekking over to residences that are a bit farther?  They could drive? Are there busses?

**5. Interest in Our Curriculum from Other Community Colleges**

Our reading/writing accelerated curriculum is becoming famous in community colleges around the state. We have a group from San Diego (Cuyamaca College) coming to observe our R/W classes in April.   Santa Rosa JC is also interested. Sierra College visited our classes last semester.  Our curriculum is becoming a model.

There is a new APASS grant that is going in this Spring.  If we get the grant, we will get money for acceleration colleges and writing workshop cohorts.

**6. Certificates of Proficiency**

Students need to apply by March 18th if they want a certificate at the Intermediate, High Intermediate or Advanced levels.  See handout David sent out for application details.

**7. Waste Management Board**

A representative from Waste Management brought over lesson plans about recycling car motor oil. If you teach the lesson in class and fill out a report, you can get $50 per class.  The lesson will take 15-20 minutes.  It’s a worthwhile cause because it shows students how to recycle oil properly, keeping it out of the bay.

**Announcements:**

**Barbara:** Message coming about nominations for Faculty Senate. Nominations opened today. They will be submitted in two weeks. You might want to nominate someone. It will be online. Also some changes might be made in the Faculty Senate Constitution.

**Judith:** My choir concert is this weekend. We are singing Brahm’s Requiem. Sat night in Alameda and Sunday afternoon in Palo Alto.