

**BCC Periodic Academic Review (PAR)--
Recent Changes Due to PAR Process**

Academic Department	Recent Changes Due to PAR Process
Biological Sciences	<p>1. Creating an A.S. in Biology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have identified several interested and motivated leaders to spearhead this project. • A departmental professional development day, scheduled for August 24, will be, in part, devoted to identifying next steps, timeline, and assigning tasks. • A second professional development day will take place prior to the spring semester in which progress toward our goal will be assessed, and next steps planned for. <p>2. Increasing recruitment in Biology programs and marketing for programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have hosted an annual Biology Information Session in which all of our programs are represented, and individuals who work in the various fields are on hand to answer students' questions and--hopefully--interest them in the program. Attendance at these events has been good, and some assessment has been done, but we need additional staff support to be able to effectively track our efforts. • We have created brochures for most of our programs, and should have marketing materials available for all programs by the end of F18. MLT even has a video "commercial." <p>3. Increasing active learning in Biology classes and research opportunities for students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty in our department have been very active in promoting various forms of active learning, including introducing the "flipped classroom." Experienced faculty are mentoring others to encourage pedagogical techniques that increase active learning. • We have significantly increased internship opportunities available to students in MLT, Horticulture, and ACM. • The development of the STEM center will create research and teaching space which will expose more students to research concepts and make possible undergraduate research projects that we previously did not have the ability to support. • We worked with Robin Auchincloss to submit a request for Reso A funds (for capital improvement projects) in order to create a departmental research facility (which complements the STEM center), a student study and advisement space, and additional teaching labs.

The English Department's Periodic Academic Review/Self-Study concluded in the summer of 2017 with the receipt of our External Evaluators' report and our subsequent action plan. From this Action Plan arose several initiatives pursued in the past academic year.

1. The first of these was the formation of the English Club, a group overseen by co-faculty advisors Dr. Denbo (our ENG AA Program Coordinator) and Dr. Joseph Donica, and comprised of ENG AA students. The group was formed not only to share common interests, but also to improve communication to and among our ENG AA students. Twice-monthly meetings have featured activities ranging from group discussions of literary theory to guest presentations and Q&As from ENG faculty members.

2. In an effort to introduce our majors and any other interested students to transfer opportunities at 4-year institutions, the Club also arranged for two transfer sessions, which will henceforth become annual events. Each of these sessions was attended by representatives of both CUNY and non-CUNY institutions offering presentations and taking questions. The transfer sessions drew active and engaged participation from the attendees.

3. Another initiative that arose out of the self-study Action Plan was a proposal for a new experimental co-requisite course following the Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) model used successfully at several other CUNY community colleges. Supported by a CUNY grant, Dr. Scott researched ALP pedagogy and made visits to the other CUNY ALP programs in preparation for the course proposal, which was ultimately presented to the department in spring 18 department meetings. The experimental course proposal was approved by department vote, though not without significant opposition. The proposal went on to the college's Curriculum Committee, where it was vigorously reviewed and discussed before it was approved, comfortably though not unanimously. Finally, the experimental course was not approved by the college Senate in their advisory vote.

English

Health, Physical Education and Recreation	<p>1. Opportunities to engage in the community as part of the curricula and to have expanded resources for participation in health and fitness practices would help fulfill the mission.</p> <p>We have continued to expand our internship offerings to students through our HLT 97- Fieldwork in Community Health Resources class. We encourage students in the Therapeutic Recreation program to take this class as a restricted elective.</p> <p>Dance Workshop has a relationship with a local public school and students from BCC go out to visit classrooms and students attend dance programs at BCC.</p> <p>2. Renewal of funding of training for adjuncts is highly recommended and will continue to contribute to meeting student learning needs by imparting new teaching practices.</p> <p>We continue to conduct annual training at the beginning of the Fall semester for the past three years. Last year (2017-2018), we conducted a Fall and Spring training.</p> <p>3. No assessment plan was reported for the therapeutic recreation program and it is assumed this will be forthcoming with the recent hiring of the new program coordinator.</p> <p>Yes, we have been assessing all 3 upper level recreation courses.</p> <p>4. At Lehman, TR majors are only required to have BIO 23. Revising the major's science requirement, perhaps to include BIO 24 as an option, is worth investigating.</p> <p>We were approved to change the major requirement to BIO 23 and either BIO 24 or any 4 credit science class</p>
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History	<p>1. Assessment changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Hardman did develop, with feedback from the department, what we are now calling our universal essay assessment rubric. Also, the GEO 10 syllabus has been revised to clearly show the Pathways SLOs. • We have instituted new faculty (mostly adjunct) workshops, guideline handouts, and enhanced mentoring, which is creating a culture of which assessment is a part. One adjunct instructor who thought she was exempt from assessment has been dismissed. • Multiple changes to assessment rubrics in response to feedback from external evaluators. • Faculty Assessment Discussions: We have held pedagogy roundtables before the academic year and again halfway through the semester, funded to increase adjunct participation, thanks to the support of OAA. <p>2. Reduced class size in HIS 10 and GEO 10 to 30 students from 35.</p> <p>3. Increase full time faculty: We have a new assistant professor starting this year, Raquel Otheguy, who will revise and teach our Latin American History class.</p>
Library	<p>1. A Library Dept. strategic planning task force was charged in Spring of 2018 to begin reviewing strategic planning and corresponding assessment approaches in order to inform the local process. The Library Dept. is participating in a national level community college library grant project that endeavors to assess and address community college student service needs to support success. The results from the Fall '18 survey developed under this grant-funded initiative will serve as a major component of BCC library strategic planning moving forward.</p> <p>2. The BCC Library Dept. Chairperson continues to advocate both locally (staffing projections (incl. impact justification statements)) and in concert with the CUNY Council of Chief Librarians (Union and CUNY Admin. communications) to realize expanded faculty lines for the Library Dept. In planning for the 2018-'19 academic year, it is believed that the said staffing projections and justifications were instrumental in gaining the BCC Administration's support to maintain current Library Dept. faculty staffing levels.</p> <p>3. The Library Personnel and Budget Committee approved the recalibration of the position vacancy description (line from a retire Library Faculty member) to include skills and duties related to educational technology and instructional design. Recruitment has been done to hire a Reference and Instructional Design Librarian and was approved as a Substitute hire for Fall 2018. The College will also endeavor to expand CUNY OER Year 2 Grant staffing funds to hire a part-time instructional designer to assist faculty at large with OER-related instructional design projects.</p>

Modern Languages	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Spanish textbook subcommittee focused its efforts on improving the textbooks used in SPN 110, 113, 117, and 120. Those efforts are still ongoing.2. Several of our faculty (adjuncts and FT) have applied to participate in a year-long workshop – “Workshop for Heritage Spanish Courses” at the Institute for Language Education in Transcultural Context (ILETC). This workshop, led by Dr Alberta Gatti (our external reviewer), is designed for CUNY instructors who teach heritage or mixed heritage/L2 Spanish courses. The aim of this workshop is to revise curriculum, discuss pedagogical approaches, and evaluate materials and assessment tools for Spanish heritage courses.3. We currently have a tenure-track opening in Spanish. The job vacancy notice specifically mentions the need to hire a specialist in this field.4. The Department has worked on improving the Language Lab. While the Language Lab is still in its early years, we had staffing issues that needed to be addressed. In Spring 2018, we had a search for a CLT for the Lab. This semester, we welcome Aziza Ingram as our department’s first lead person to lead the Lab.
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