
Student Affairs Board Report

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As fall begins, I am now the parent of two in college – a sophomore who we hope does not hit the sophomore slump, and the other is just beginning the journey with moments of excitement and fear about leaving home.

Building Cultural Competency: We will begin the fourth cohort of Leadership LBCC, focusing on guiding staff on the journey to developing cultural competency. I am sponsoring two more employees, a part-time faculty member and a classified staff member to become certified trainers in the “Navigating Differences” portion of the programs. This will give LBCC four (4) trainers certified to facilitate this Washington State University program.

In support of advancing free expression for learning, Mark Urista, faculty in Communication, has been accepted to attend an academic, research based conference about free expression on campus. He will learn from faculty studying this topic and will bring back information to conduct some research at LBCC about free expression. I am sponsoring his attendance because he is a member of our Free Expression work group.

Facilities Supporting Student Experience: Now that we have the additional state funding for the Albany Campus projects, we are again developing plans for enhancing the use of Tadena Hall. Danny Aynes and Jess Jacobs are developing the requirements for the physical space to allow students to make their payments in Tadena. Students often request this service and are then guided on a challenging journey to find the Business Office. It makes sense to be able to register and pay in one location and the new Tadena design will meet the requirements for proper cash management.

Technology to meet student needs: Two years ago, on recommendation by the Advising Committee and Progression Council, LBCC purchased and began planning the implementation of Degree Works, and educational planning and degree auditing module of our Banner system. The module will support advising, Guided Pathways, and course schedule planning by departments through assessing future course demand. Over the summer, intense work on implementation of Degree Works began as the baseline project wound down for the student portion of Banner. Registration finished job redesign to create the necessary dedicated person for building and maintain Degree Works. A team of registration staff and IT worked with our implementation consult for many days over the course of the summer to begin laying the foundation. This is another complicated and massive system implementation that will be the focus of those involved. Other schools have taken 2-years to implement and we are trying to complete in 18 months. OSU and other community colleges in Oregon use Degree Works and have enjoyed very positive responses from students and faculty.