

**April 20, 2026**  
**2:00-4:00 p.m.**  
**AC 217 and Zoom**

**Present:** Holley Shafer, Mary Kesler, Emily Fox, Laura Cooper, Kathleen Antokhin, Brier Welch, Julian Solis

**Absent:** Eresa Puch, Hector Saez, Nicole McIntyre, Kai McCarthy, Kahtara Harris

**Review Agenda** – Agenda approved

**Goal Review by Laura Cooper**

**Strategic Priority: Be the Best Place to Study and Learn**

1. **Goal 3.** *Increase student enrollment for underrepresented populations and expand existing areas of strategic growth via smooth entry, supported momentum, and equitable success across transfer and career pathways.*

**Steward:** Director of School and Community Partnerships - Julian Solis

**Optimize data-informed scheduling and enrollment:**

- VP Emerson is driving a shift to 1–2 year advance scheduling to better align with high school partners.
- ~80% of offerings are in-person, reflecting student demand.
- IVC Expansion: A full pathway of GE courses is now offered at the Indian Valley Campus (IVC), with scheduling coordinated with Novato Unified to increase high school student access.
- 8-Week Courses: Concern exists that these compressed courses increase the risk of students dropping, which can negatively impact graduation, transfer, and financial aid eligibility.
- DE Course Development Gap:
  - Problem: Course development is faculty-driven, not data-driven.
  - Impact: This creates gaps in transfer pathways (e.g., no online Bio 110)
  - Lack of incentives for part-time faculty for significant, unpaid development work.
  - Full-timers receive flex credit or can apply for a sabbatical to develop DE courses

**Eliminate fraudulent enrollment:**

- AI-based fraud detection has reduced fraudulent applications (once up to 75% of submissions).
- Unintended Consequences:
  - Spam Filters: Block legitimate applications, requiring manual staff intervention.
  - Hidden Fee Waiver: The California Promise Grant fee waiver is difficult to find in CCCApply.

- In-Person Verification: A new policy requiring in-person verification for initial financial aid disbursement may create a barrier for some students.
- CCCApply Update: A new version (late 2026/2027) will simplify the application but remove self-identification questions for resource programs (e.g., EOPS), hindering proactive outreach.

**Expand dual enrollment:**

- Goal: Build comprehensive, full-year pathways to support a sustainable dual enrollment program.
- New Initiatives:
  - TAM Union HSD: Surveying students to gauge interest in on-campus offerings.
  - Compass Program: Expanding to all three Novato Unified high schools.

**Data Sharing:**

- Pursuing an agreement with Novato Unified to track student progress post-graduation, providing faster, more accurate data than the National Clearinghouse.
- California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI): Starting in 2026, high school seniors will be required to use this portal, which will improve student tracking and outreach.

**Expand career and transfer pathways:**

- Educator Pathway: A new partnership with Sonoma State and Marin County Office of Education offers guaranteed transfer and job opportunities for students pursuing education careers.
- Non-Credit Expansion: Exploring non-credit versions of credit courses (e.g., Business, Hospitality) to create streamlined pathways.

**Year 2 Strategy revisions/suggestions:**

- Ensure the process for developing DE courses is student-centered and explore avenues for part-timers to be compensated for develop course content for DE courses
- IVC scheduling is already there, continue evaluating how it's working

**Strategic Priority: Be a Catalyst for Positive Community Change**

**Goal 2:** *Maximize social service impact for underserved community members via collaborative coordination, promotion, and integration with community partners and agencies.*

**Steward:** Associate Dean of Student Activities and Advocacy – Sadika Sulaiman Hara

**Augment resources:**

- Partnership Updates:
  - Marin City: Outreach is stalled due to difficulty finding a sustainable community partner.
  - CalFresh looking for student representatives
    - April 11<sup>th</sup> mixed-status families and undocumented were removed from eligibility

- Financial Literacy: The partnership is shifting from BMO to Redwood Credit Union per an existing MOU.
- Housing Initiatives:
  - Dominican University: An open door for student housing referrals, but availability is inconsistent.
  - Redlands University: An agreement is in final stages for a 50-room residence hall, targeting a Fall 2026 launch.
- Child Study Center (CSC):
  - Focus: Increasing enrollment for student parents by offering affordable childcare scholarships.
  - Support: Provides parent workshops and partners with agencies like 10,000 Degrees and Marin Child Care Council.
- Student Accessibility Services (SAS):
  - System Upgrade: Implemented AIM, a new data system that replaces paper files and enables better data analysis.
  - SAS Transition Partnerships: Established formal "handoff" agreements with Sonoma State, CSU East Bay, and UC Davis to ease transfer for SAS students.

**Year 2 Strategy revisions/suggestions:**

- Suggestion to remove “Develop opportunities for external partners to provide onsite support” – goal is mostly complete
- ConexEd Optimization:
  - Instead of exploring data sharing strategies across agencies – shift to internal data (ConexEd)
  - Problem: ConexEd data is incomplete, as not all programs use it for tracking.
  - Action: AVP Stormy is working with the Chancellor's Office to expand ConexEd use, which is critical for identifying service gaps and informing resource allocation.
  - Or explicitly state cross-referencing, understanding or creating a repository for who is using what agency
- Reword or remove “Find ways to supplement funding for COM Cares emergency assistance”
  - Develop a protocol to act as a "safety net" for vulnerable students (e.g., undocumented, LGBTQ+) when sudden legal or funding changes threaten their access to services.

**Makeup Testing Cancellation**

- Problem: The SAS Testing Center abruptly stopped offering makeup tests for non-SAS students, creating significant hardship for faculty and students.
- Context: The center is returning to its original mission of serving SAS students, but the cancellation was made without faculty consultation or a transition plan.
- Impact: This creates a major operational gap, especially for adjunct faculty with limited office hours, and prevents students from making up exams due to unforeseen circumstances.

## Educational Planning Committee (EPC)

- Root Cause: This incident highlights a systemic failure in communication and planning, mirroring past issues (e.g., the library textbook program).
- Solution: A new, college-wide solution for makeup testing is needed, potentially a dedicated testing center or a department-based proctoring model.

### **EPC Debrief:**

- Draft year-end progress report and 2026-27 implementation strategies for Goals 2 & 3.
- Share drafts with Goal Stewards (Julian, Sadika) for feedback before finalizing.
- Add the makeup testing issue to a future agenda to develop a college-wide solution.

Next meeting: May 4