Program Name: Reading Department Faculty Contact: Jamie Marron Academic Year: 2011–2012 Program Review Submission Date: March 25, 2013 (updated 4/26/13)

## I. Description of Program

Provide a brief description of the program and how it supports the college's <u>College Mission</u> and Diversity Statements, <u>Institutional Priorities</u>, 2008-2013, <u>5 in 5 College Strategies</u>, <u>Spring</u> 2011, and other <u>institutional planning documents</u> as appropriate.

According to The State of Basic Skills Instruction in California Community Colleges, which was adopted in April 2000 by the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges:

"Reading is the most essential basic skill that students need to succeed academically."

Reading is a skill that is required in every aspect of a college student's course of study. Nearly every division and every single course within each division at the College of San Mateo directs a component of its focus toward helping the CSM college student to read well.

The Reading Department is charged with the sole focus of helping students to improve their reading skills in every aspect of academic activity. This includes comprehending college-level textbooks, thinking critically, evaluating digital texts, taking tests, using writing to analyze texts, and writing in response to thoughts provoked by readings. The Reading Department is instrumental in preparing students for careers such as nursing, fire technology, and administration of justice, and also prepares students to transfer to four-year universities.

The curriculum of the College of San Mateo's Reading Department includes both developmental-level and transfer-level courses.

The developmental/basics skills reading courses address the needs of students who place below college-level reading, while strengthening their critical reading and study abilities. The transfer-level reading courses address the needs of students who will transfer to four-year universities.

#### re: Mission Statement

CSM's Mission Statement names five institutional priorities:

- 1. Improve Student Success
- 2. Promote Academic Excellence
- 3. Promote Relevant, High-Quality Programs and Services
- 4. Promote Integrated Planning, Fiscal Stability, and the Efficient Use of Resources
- 5. Enhance Institutional Dialog

Many of the students enter the college with placement scores that indicate they need a reading class. The CSM reading program provides direct instruction to those students who enroll in the department's classes, which enables them to acquire better study and reading comprehension skills, to increase their vocabulary, and to do well in their content classes. The reading program's students go on to transfer-level classes or programs, such as Nursing, Administrative Justice, Fire Science, and Electronics. Since the last program review, the Reading Department has been actively involved with the Biology Department in the Reading Apprenticeship Program that is being launched on the campus.

#### re: Diversity Statement

The Reading Department is open to any student at CSM who wishes to take its courses. In addition, the department is committed to using instructional materials that are as diverse as possible in content and form.

## II. Summary of Student and Program Data

#### A. Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

Exams, reflection papers, lab assignments, and in-class written assignments were used to assess the SLOs. We analyzed the data during department meetings and SLO discussion meetings. The data will be posted in the near future on the TracDat website.

How the Reading Program assesses the SLOs:

- 1. Identification of the SLOs
- 2. Steps 2–4 of the cycle: data gathering and evaluation of outcomes are accomplished during the semester being evaluated.
- 3. Steps 5–6: reviewing evidence, identifying weaknesses, and implementing changes; these steps take place during a departmental meeting during the following semester.

Our SLO cycles:

- 1. Fall 2007: Read 825, 830, and 400 had major SLOs assessed: Read 400 had all SLOs assessed.
- 2. Fall 2008: Read 825, 830, and 400 again had the same SLOs assessed. Read 400 again had all SLOs assessed and all lab-only courses (Read 412, 454, 455, 812, 814, 815, 852, and 853) had all SLOs assessed.
- 3. Fall 2009: All courses (excluding lab-only courses assessed in Fall 2008) had all SOLs assessed; in addition, Read 807/809 (only offered now in spring semesters, and moving to ESL Department in Fall 2013) had all SLOs assessed in Spring 2009.
- 4. Cycle has continued. Major courses (Read 825, Read 830, Read 400) have one SLO assessed each Fall, with all SLOs assessed over a period of four years. The lab-only courses continue to have all SLOs assessed every two years; therefore, lab-only courses were not assessed in Fall 2011–Spring 2012.

Data entry into Tracdat continues during Spring 2013.

Course	Number of SLOs assessed	Method of Assessment	Findings
Read 825	SLO #1, #2, #3, and #4	Final exam, journal entries for novel, quizzes	Results indicate the students are learning the materials. Pass rate of SLOs above 70%.
Read 830	SLO #1 and #4	Final exam	Results indicate the students are learning the materials. Pass rate of SLOs above 70%.
Read 400	SLO #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5	Final exam, logs, homework, quizzes, margin notes	Results indicate the students are learning the materials. Pass rate of SLOs above 70%.

Table 1: Findings in the Reading Program, Fall 2011–Spring 2012

## **B. Student Success Indicators**

1. Review Student Success and Core Program Indicators and discuss any differences in student success indicators across demographic variables. Also refer to the College Index and other relevant sections of the Educational Master Plan: Update, 2012, e.g., Student Outcomes and Student Outcomes: Transfer. Basic Skills programs should also refer to ARCC data.

Student Success	Year	Year	Year
Indicators	2009–2010	2010–2011	2011–2012
Success %	63	63.1	65.6
Retention %	76.8	73.2	74.7
Withdraw %	23	26.8	25.3

Table 2: Success Indicators for All Students in the Reading Program

SOURCE: PRIE.

For 2011–2012, the Reading Program showed a moderate increase in its rate of Success (improvement of 2.5% over 2010–2011), and in its rate of Retention (improvement of 1.5% over 2010–2011), while the rate of Withdrawal showed a slight decrease (down 1.5% from 2010–2011).

Student success can be viewed from different vantage points. The Student Success Indicators

(SSI) for Reading: Language Arts have three broad criteria: Success rate, which has held steady from 2009–2010 (63%) to 2011–2012 (65.6%); Retention rate, which has held steady from 2009–2010 (76.8%) to 2011–2012 (74.7%); and Withdrawal rate, which has held steady from 2009–2010 (23.2%) to 2011–2012 (25.3%). (CSM Instructional Program Review: Spring 2013 Cycle, Quantitative Data, p. 185.)

In comparison, Reading: Language Arts, compared to the SSI of the Language Arts Division, showed close alignment to the Success rate of 2009–2010 (64.6%) and 2011–2012 (66.4%). The Language Arts Division Retention rate has also held steady (80%), but surpassed the Reading Program by an average of 5.6% over the three-year period. The Withdrawal rate of the Language Arts Division was an average of 19.5% over the three-year period, whereas the Withdrawal rate of the Reading: Language Arts Division was 25.1% over the same period. (CSM Instructional Review: Spring 2013 Cycle, Quantitative Data, pp. 129 and 185.)

Core Program Indicators (CPI) include Enrollments by Department, Headcount, Weekly Student Contact Hours (WSCH), Full-Time Equivalent Student (FTFS), Load (WSCH/FTEF, Productivity), and Full-Time Equivalent Faculty (FTEF). (CSM Instructional Program Review: Spring 2013 Cycle, Quantitative Data.)

Enrollment also held steady throughout the three-year cycle, with a peak of N = 762 in 2010–2011, compared to N = 710 in 2009–2010, N = 724 in 2011–2012 (CSM Instructional Program Review: Spring 2013 Cycle, Quantitative Data, pp. 185–188).

In Summer 2012, two online courses were offered (Read 825 was offered for the first time, and Read 830 was repeated for the fifth time). The enrollment was 17 students per section. In comparison, the Language Arts Division has showed a slight decline in enrollment over the past three years: N = 10,902, 2009-2010; N = 9,662, 2010-2011; N = 9,364, 2011-2012 (CSM Instructional Program Review: Spring 2013 Cycle, Quantitative Data, p. 129).

A closer look at Reading: Language Arts Demographic Variables may provide insight into successful course completion rates for 2009–2012.

*Gender:* Consistently, more female than male students have taken the Reading courses in recent years. For example, in 2010–2011 and 2011–2012, there were twice as many females as males. Furthermore, male students' Percent Success trend dropped from 61.4% in 2009–2010 to 53% in 2011–2012, with a Percent Withdrawal rate trending upward from 26.2% in 2009–2010 to 32.7% in 2011–2012. (CSM Instructional Program Review: Spring 2013 Cycle, Quantitative Data, p. 185). This is a serious concern and may be a reflection of the economic environment. In recruitment, the Reading Program will want to make an effort to recruit male students. In comparison, female students trended upward in Percent Success rate over the three-year period from 65.5% in 2009–2010, to 65.7% in 2010–2011, to 70.7% in 2011–2012. Their Percent Withdrawal rate was lower than that of the male students, although it trended up from 2009–2010, when it was 20.7% to 24.6% in 2010–2011, and then downward again in 2011–2012, when it was 22.4%.

The Language Arts Division showed more of a gender balance. Male students' Percent Success

rate has held steady over the three-year period at 61%, as did the Percent Withdrawal rate at 21%. Female students' Percent Success rate was parallel to their Percent Success rate in the Reading Program (70.1% in 2011–2012). The Percent Withdrawal rate has been trending downward and is currently stabler than the Percent Withdrawal rate in the Reading Program.

*Age:* The size of the 30 to 34-year-old age group has been consistently trending upward in the Reading Program during the last three years (N = 57 in 2009–2010; 79 in 2010–2011; 99 in 2011–2012). This is not consistent with the Language Arts Division, which has shown a decline and then a rise in this age group (N = 675 in 2009–2010; 531 in 2010–2011; 611 in 2011–2012).

The size of the 19-year-old or younger age group trended downward in the last three years (N = 191 in 2009-2010; 180 in 2010-2011; 175 in 2011-2012. This age group decline is consistent with the pattern in the Language Arts Division (CSM Instructional Program Review: Spring 2013 Cycle, Quantitative Data, p. 129). Clearly, targeted recruitment is needed for this age group.

There was a slow decline in the size of the 50+ age group in the Reading Program in the last three years (N = 52 in 2009–2010; 52 in 2010–2011; 42 in 2011–2012; for a 3-year drop of 19.2%). In the Language Arts Division, the decline in the numbers in this age group has been even steeper (N = 649 in 2009–2010; 350 in 2010–2011; 327 in 2011–2012; for a 3-year drop of 49.6%).

*Ethnicity:* Only three groups have consistently gone up in enrollment size each year since 2009–2010: Blacks (N = 33 in 2009–2010; 58 in 2010–2011; 68 in 2011–2012); Filipinos (N = 41 in 2009–2010; 49 in 2010–2011; 52 in 2011–2012); and Pacific Islanders (N = 16 in 2009–2010; 17 in 2010–2011; 25 in 2011–2012). Three groups went up and then down: Asians (N = 131 in 2009–2010; 140 in 2010–2011; 104 in 2011–2012); Whites (N = 150 in 2009–2010; 165 in 2010–2011; 123 in 2011–2012); and Native Americans, the smallest group in the Reading Program (N = 2 in 2009–2010; 5 in 2010–2011; 4 in 2011–2012). One group, Hispanics, the largest group in the Reading Program, first went down and then back up (N = 235 in 2009–2010; 213 in 2010–2011; 232 in 2011–2012).

In the Language Arts Division, the trend in enrollment size has been consistently downward for almost all groups (Asians: N = 1,930 in 2009–2010; 1,680 in 2010–2011; 1,576 in 2011–2012; Blacks: N = 375 in 2009–2010; 364 in 2010–2011; 361 in 2011–2012; Hispanics: N = 2,576 in 2009–2010; 2,310 in 2010–2011; 2,167 in 2011–2012; Pacific Islanders: N = 266 in 2009–2010; 264 in 2010–2011; 260 in 2011–2012; and Whites: N = 3,323 in 2009–2010; 2,588 in 2010–2011; 2,494 in 2011–2012). The two exceptions are Native Americans, who have gone consistently upward (N = 27 in 2009–2010; 30 in 2010–2011; 31 in 2011–2012); and Filipinos, who went up and then down (N = 619 in 2009–2010; 625 in 2010–2011; 573 in 2011–2012).

Some areas of concern in the Reading Program insofar as ethnicities are concerned—areas that will be addressed below in Section V—are that Blacks, Hispanics, and Filipinos have been trending downward in the Success category during the past three years (from 66.7% to 55.2% to 51.5% for Blacks; from 64.3% to 61.5% to 60.3% for Hispanics; and from 73.2% to 57.1% to 61.5% for Filipinos). This has not been true of these ethnic groups in the Language Arts Division

as a whole, where their Success rates have remained relatively stable (from 59.2% to 56% to 54.9% for Blacks; from 59.4% to 59.1% to 60.4% for Hispanics; and from 67% to 66.4% to 65.6% for Filipinos). On the other hand, Whites, Native Americans, and Pacific Islanders have been trending upward in the Reading Program, but holding relatively steady in the Language Arts Division. Asians have remained in the 70th percentile for Success in both categories. (See Tables 2 and 3, below).

Division: 4413	- Langua	ge Arts:	Reading	(READ	))							
			Academic	Year		STUD	DENT SL	ICCESS		Acade	mic Ye	ar
INDICATOR		09-10	10-11		11-12	INDIC	ATORS		09-	10 1	0-11	11-12
Enrollments/Dup.	D. 1	thours.		331			4100					
Headcount		710	762		724	Succe	ess %		63	% 6	3.1%	65.6%
WSCH		2312.5	2403.6	1145	2323.7	Reter	ntion %		76.8	3% 7	3.2%	74.7%
FTES		77.1	80.1		77.5	Withd	iraw %		23.2	2% 2	6.8%	25.3%
LOAD (WSCH/FTE	EF)*	550.6	600.9		544.6		-					
Classroom Teach	ing FTEF									Acade	mic Ye	ar
Full-time FTEF		3.4	3.6		3.9	Secti	ons		09-		0-11	11-12
Adjunct FTEF		0.2	0		0	Total	la characteristic		44		44	45
Overload FTEF												
(F-T Faculty)		0.6	0.4		0.4	% CT	E		09	6	0%	0%
Retired FTEF		0	0		0	% Tra	ansferabl	le	34.1	1% 3	1.8%	31.1%
Total FTEF		4.2	4		4.3	% De	gree App	olicable	15.9	3% 1	5.9%	15.6%
Percent Full-time		95.2%	100%		100%	% Ba	sic Skills		50	% 5	2.3%	53.3%
Successful Co	urse Con	npletion	Rates: 20	009-10	to 201	1-12	31-3-2K	a sugar	S. Cale			
		Enrollment	s	Pct	Enrollm	ents	Perc	ent Suc	CASS	Perc	ent Witi	hdraw
Demographic		plicate Heado			licate Head		1.000		1000			1000
Variable	09-10	10-11	11-12	09-10	10-11	11-12	09-10	10-11	11-12	09-10	10-11	11-12
Ethnicity				10.5					70.0			10.5
Asian	131	140	104	18.5	18.4	14.4	77.1	70.7	76.9	15.3	22.9	13.5
Black	33	58	68	4.6	7.6	9.4	66.7	55.2	51.5	24.2	31	38.2
Filipino	41	49	52	5.8	6.4	7.2	73.2	57.1	61.5	9.8	30.6	26.9
Hispanic	235	213	232	33.1	28.0	32.0	64.3	61.5	60.3	20	26.8	30.2
Native Am	2	5	4	0.3	0.7	0.6	100	80	100	0	0	0
Pac Islander	16	17	25	2.3	2.2	3.5	50	64.7	88	37.5	23.5	8
White	150	165	123	21.1	21.7	17.0	54	64.9	69.1	31.3	24.9	24.4
Other	23	53	72	3.2	7.0	9.9	21.7	54.7	56.9	43.5	37.7	29.2
Unrecorded	79	62	44	11.1	8.1	6.1	59.5	64.5	81.8	29.1	27.4	13.6
Total	710	762	724	100	100	100	63	63.1	65.6	23.2	26.8	25.3
Gender			1000									
Female	440	487	492	62.0	63.9	68.0	65.5	65.7	70.7	20.7	24.6	22.4
Male	233	234	202	32.8	30.7	27.9	61.4	57.3	53	26.2	31.2	32.7
Unrecorded	37	41	30	5.2	5.4	4.1	43.2	65.9	66.7	35.1	26.8	23.3
Total	710	762	724	100	100	100	63	63.1	65.6	23.2	26.8	25.3
Age										-		
19 or less	191	180	175	26.9	23.6	24.2	54.5	54.4	54.4	30.4	32.8	31.4
20-24	141	130	147	19.9	17.1	20.3	50.4	52.3	52.3	29.1	35.4	41.5
25-29	116	132	101	16.3	17.3	14.0	76.7	69.7	69.7	12.1	20.5	18.8
30-34	57	79	99	8.0	10.4	13.7	75.4	78.5	78.5	12.3	13.9	10.1
35-39	56	65	56	7.9	8.5	7.7	76.8	66.2	66.2	16.1	23.1	19.6
40-49	71	93	83	10.0	12.2	11.5	69	73.1	73.1	21.1	22.6	13.3
50+	52	52	42	7.3	6.8	5.8	67.3	55.8	55.8	25	32.7	28.6
Unrecorded	26	31	21	3.7	4.1	2.9	50	67.7	67.7	30.8	25.8	19.1
Total	710	762	724	100	100	100	63	63.1	65.6	23.2	26.8	25.3

#### Table 3: Success in the Reading Program by Ethnicity

CSM Program Review: Spring 2013 Submission Cycle

SOURCE: PRIE.

## Table 4: Success in the Language Arts Division by Ethnicity

CSM Program Review: Spring 2013 Submission Cycle Student Success and Core Program Indicators Academic Years 2009/10 to 2011/12 – Page 1

			Academic	Year		STUD	DENT SU	ICCESS		Acade	emic Ye	ar
INDICATOR		09-10	10-11		11-12	INDIC	ATORS		09-	10 1	0-11	11-12
Enrollments/Dup.												
Headcount		10902	9662		9364	Succe	ess %		64.6	5% 6	5.4%	66.49
WSCH		46215.8	41064.1	3	8813.3	Reter	ntion %		80.4	8 %	0.4%	80.89
FTES		1540.5	1368.8	1	1293.8	Withd	Iraw %		19.6	5% 1	9.6%	19.29
LOAD (WSCH/FTE	F)*	491.5	475.5		438.5							
Classroom Teachi	ng FTEF					_				Acade	emic Ye	ar
Full-time FTEF		50.1	50.2		50.9	Secti	ons		09-	10 1	0-11	11-1
Adjunct FTEF		38.2	29.2		31.5	Total	2		47	6	395	412
Overload FTEF												
(F-T Faculty)		5.8	7		6.1	% CT	Έ		0.4	%	0%	0%
Retired FTEF		0	0		0	% Тга	ansferabl	le	61.8	3%	60%	60.99
Total FTEF		94	86.4		88.5	% De	gree Apr	olicable	17.7	% 1	7.5%	16%
Percent Full-time		59.4%	66.2%		64.4%		sic Skills		20.2	2% 2	2.5%	23.19
Successful Cou	Irse Con	pletion	Rates: 20	009-10	to 201	1-12						
Demographic		Enrollment			Enrollm		Perc	cent Suc	cess	Perc	ent Wit	hdraw
Variable	09-10	10-11	11-12	09-10	10-11	11-12	09-10	10-11	11-12	09-10	10-11	11-12
Ethnicity												
Asian	1930	1680	1576	17.7	17.4	16.8	72.1	70.4	72	16.4	16.7	15
Black	375	364	361	3.4	3.8	3.9	59.2	56	54.9	19.2	24.5	23
Filipino	619	625	573	5.7	6.5	6.1	67	66.4	65.6	18.1	19.2	18.2
Hispanic	2576	2310	2167	23.6	23.9	23.1	59.4	59.1	60.4	22.5	23	24.7
Native Am	27	30	31	0.2	0.3	0.3	55.6	56.7	64.5	22.2	20	22.6
Pac Islander	266	264	260	2.4	2.7	2.8	52.3	54.6	57.7	24.8	21.6	21.2
White	3323	2588	2494	30.5	26.8	26.6	66.6	68.4	69.6	18.8	18.8	16.9
Other	489	926	1214	4.5	9.6	13.0	56.2	64.7	66	22.3	20.4	20.4
Unrecorded	1297	875	688	11.9	9.1	7.3	64.8	70.9	72	19.5	15.2	15.6
Total	10902	9662	9364	100	100	100	64.6	65.4	66.4	19.6	19.6	19.2
Gender	10002	0002	0001		100		0110	00.1	00.1		10.0	10.1
Female	5704	4761	4612	52.3	49.3	49.3	67.4	68.6	70.1	18.4	18.2	17.7
Male	4599	4370	4169	42.2	45.2	44.5	61.2	61.5	61.7	21.1	21.4	21.2
Unrecorded	599	531	583	5.5	5.5	6.2	63.3	68.6	70.7	19.9	16.8	17
Total	10902	9662	9364	100	100	100	64.6	65.4	66.4	19.6	19.6	19.2
Age	10002	5002	0004	100	100	100	04.0	00.4	00.4	10.0	10.0	10.2
19 or less	3717	3469	3308	34.1	35.9	35.3	66.1	67.4	67.4	16.6	16.5	16.3
20-24	3212	2872	2935	29.5	29.7	35.3	62.1	61.4	61.4	21.2	21.7	21.7
20-24	1113	1031	2935 907	29.5	29.7	9.7	62.1	63	61.4	21.2	21.7	21.7
30-34	675	531	907 611	6.2	5.5	9.7	61.9	67	63 67	21.9	23	19.2
		1000										
35-39	475	452	360	4.4	4.7	3.8	64	67.5	67.5	22.1	21.5	20.3
40-49	687	620	528	6.3	6.4	5.6	67	69.7	69.7	20.7	19.7	19.9
50+	649	350	327	6.0	3.6	3.5	67.6	66.9	66.9	17.7	24	20.5
Unrecorded	374	337	388	3.4	3.5	4.1	66.3	70.9	70.9	18.2	14	14.2
Total	10902	9662	9364	100	100	100	64.6	65.4	66.4	19.6	19.6	19.2

#### SOURCE: PRIE.

2. Discuss any differences in student success indicators across modes of delivery (on-campus versus distance education). Refer to Delivery Mode Course Comparison.

The traditional reading courses maintained a slight increase in both Retention and Success rates over the online versions. This was consistent with the Language Arts Division and the College.

Read 830 (College and Career Reading), which has been online for the last three years, had a Success rate of 56.9%, which was lower by 9.4 percentage points than the Success rate for the face-to-face version of the course, and a Retention rate of 77.4%, which was lower by 4.4 percentage points than the Retention rate for the face-to-face version of the course. Nevertheless, these rates are comparable to the Success and Retention rates for the whole college (see Table 5, below).

Fall 2009– Fall 2011	Read 830 Distance	Read 830 On-campus	College Distance	College On-campus
No. of Sections	3	9	179	511
No. of Enrollments	72	249	5,179	16,870
Success	56.9%	66.3%	58.6%	63%
Retention	73.6%	78.7%	77.4%	81.8%

Table 5: Success and Retention Rates for Read 830 and Whole College

SOURCE: PRIE.

The Reading Department plans to continue its efforts to improve both the Success and the Retention rates in the Read 830 course.

## **C. Program Efficiency Indicators**

Do we deliver programs efficiently, given our resources? Summarize trends in program efficiency as indicated in the Student Success and Core Program Indicators (LOAD, Full-time and Part-Time FTEF, etc.).

The enrollment in the Reading Program has consistently gone up modestly in the last three years: 6.5% from Fall 2009 to Fall 2010, and 2.8% from Fall 2010 to Fall 2011. During that time, the teaching load, for which the state assigns a standard of 526 hours, was close to that standard in 2009 (521.1) but higher than the standard in the following two years (611 in 2010, and 583.9 in 2011). (See Table 6, below.)

Indicator	Fall 2009	Fall 2010	Fall 2011
Enrollment/Duplicate	368	392	403
Head Count			
Weekly Student			
Contact Hours	1146.3	1222.1	1245.5
(WSCH)			
Full-Time Equivalent	38.2	40.7	41.5
Students (FTES)			
LOAD Weekly			
Student Contact			
Hours/Full-Time	521.1	611	583.9
Equivalent Faculty			
(WSCH/FTEF)			

## Table 6: Efficiency Indicators for the Reading Program

SOURCE: PRIE.

## **D.** Course Outline Updates

Review the course outline update record. List the courses that will be updated in the next academic year. For each course that will be updated, provide a faculty contact and the planned submission month. See the Committee on Instruction website for course submission instructions. Contact your division's COI representatives if you have questions about submission deadlines. Career and Technical Education courses must be updated every two years.

The Reading Program course outlines will be using CurricuNet for the first time for this Program Review Cycle.

Courses	Faculty Contact	Submission Month
Read 400:	Jamie Marron	SP 2014, February
Academic Textbook Reading		
Read 405:	Jamie Marron	SP 2013: to be banked,
College Analytical Reading		follow-up F 2013,
		November
Read 412:	Carole Wills	SP 2013, May
College-Level Individualized Reading		
Improvement	Jamie Marron	SP 2014, February
Read 415:	Carole Wills	SP 2013: to be banked,
Read Across the Disciplines:		follow-up Fall (F) 2013,
Individualized Preparation		November
Read 454	Carole Wills	SP 2013, May
College-Level Vocabulary		
Improvement I	Jamie Marron	SP 2014, February
Read 455:	Carole Wills	SP 2013, May

## Table 7: Courses to be Updated

College-Level Vocabulary		SP 2014, February
Improvement II	Jamie Marron	
Read 807:	Moving to ESL	Effective F 2013
Basic Phonics Skills for Non-Native	Dept.	
Speakers		
Read 808:	Moving to ESL	Effective F 2013
Basic Phonic Skills	Dept.	
Read 812:	Carole Wills	SP 2013, May
Individualized Reading Improvement		SP 2014, February
	Jamie Marron	
Read 814:	Carole Wills	SP 2013, May
Basic Spelling Mastery		SP 2014, February
	Jamie Marron	
Read 815:	Carole Wills	SP 2013, May
Advanced Spelling Mastery		SP 2014, February
	Jamie Marron	
Read 825:	Carole Wills	SP 2013, May
Introduction to College Reading		
	Jamie Marron	SP 2014, February
Read 830:	Jamie Marron	SP 2014, February
College and Career Reading		
Read 852:	Carole Wills	SP 2013, May
Vocabulary Improvement I	Jamie Marron	SP 2014, February
Read 853:	Carole Wills	SP 2013, May
Vocabulary Improvement II	Jamie Marron	SP 2014, February

## E. Website Review

*Review the program's website(s) annually and update as needed.* 

The department met with the CSM librarians in May 2012 to discuss the design and content of the Reading Program's website. The next reviews are scheduled for May 2013 (Wills) and May 2014 (Marron).

Tuble of Schedule for Reduing Frogram (Cobste Review				
Faculty contact(s)	Date of next review/update			
Carole Wills	SP 2013 (May)			
Jamie Marron	SP 2014 (February)			

## Table 8: Schedule for Reading Program Website Review

## F. Additional Career Technical Education Data

CTE programs only. (This information is required by California Ed. Code 78016.)

1. Review the program's Gainful Employment Disclosure Data, External Community, and other

institutional research or labor market data as applicable. Explain how the program meets a documented labor market demand without unnecessary duplication of other training programs in the area. Summarize student outcomes in terms of degrees, certificates, and employment. Identify areas of accomplishment and areas of concern.

*Click here to enter Gainful Employment Disclosure Data narrative This is not applicable to the CSM Reading Program.* 

2. Review and update the program's Advisory Committee information. Provide the date of most recent advisory committee meeting.

Click here to update the Advisory Committee information

**III.** Student Learning Outcomes Scheduling and Alignment

## A. Course SLO Assessment

Explain any recent or projected modifications to the course SLO assessment process or schedule.

The Reading Department assesses one SLO per course level each academic year, with the exception of Read 400 (Academic Textbook Reading), which has been assessed for all of its SLOs once each year since 2008. This exception will cease in Fall 2013.

The department is satisfied with its assessment methods, with the exception of its evaluating the students in Read 830 for their understanding of SLO 4, which applies to a writing passage's point of view, purpose, tone, conclusions, figurative language, connotation/denotation, bias, audience, and mood. Up till now, we have tested all these variables under the umbrella of inference. In the future, we will test for each variable specifically.

## **B.** Program SLO Assessment

*Explain any recent or projected modifications to the program SLO assessment process or schedule.* 

Since one of the two full-time faculty members in the Reading Program will be leaving as of the end of May 2013, the remaining faculty member will essentially retain the current SLO assessment process and schedule until the two new part-time faculty members are in place as of Fall 2013.

## C. SLO Alignment

Discuss how Course SLOs support Program SLOs. Discuss how Course and/or Program SLOs support Institutional/GE SLOs. (Refer to TracDat related Programs and Institutional reports.)

The course SLOs of the CSM Reading Department directly support the department's SLOs. They both support the Institutional/GE SLO Courses (See Table 9, below).

GE SLOs	Effective	Quantitative	Critical	Social	Ethical
Program	Communication	Skills	Thinking	Awareness	Responsibility
Courses				and Diversity	
Read 400	Х		Х	Х	Х
Read 412	Х		Х	Х	Х
Read 454	Х		Х	Х	Х
Read 455	X		Х		
Read 807	Х		Х		
Read 808	Х		Х		
Read 812	Х		Х	Х	Х
Read 814	Х		Х		
Read 815	Х		Х		
Read 825	Х		Х	X	Х
Read 830	Х		Х	Х	Х
Read 854	Х		Х		
Read 855	Х		Х		

Table 9: Reading Department SLO relationship to Institutional/GE SLOs

## **IV. Additional Factors**

Discuss additional factors as applicable that impact the program, including changes in student populations, state-wide initiatives, transfer requirements, advisory committee recommendations, legal mandates, workforce development and employment opportunities, community needs. See Institutional Research as needed.

1. The Reading Department's enrollment has been impacted by (a) a decision by the English Department to no longer require a reading class for students taking the lowest-level English class; (b) decisions by the ESL Department to take over the teaching of phonics and to offer its own Level 4 reading class; (c) statewide pressures influencing community colleges to get students through their academic courses in the least amount of time; and (d) the ongoing challenges of students who need reading skills at the college level being resistant to getting focused help on reading.

2. Nevertheless, the need for college students to be able to read well is recognized by virtually all educators. To that end, the College of San Mateo has initiated a focus on Reading Apprenticeship during the past academic year, which eventually will ideally affect all classes in all departments. The Reading Department, which is very involved with this initiative, is the only place where students can receive focused help solely directed on reading.

3. After the census in September 2012, at the request of the Reading Department working with the CSM Publicity and Marketing Department, the District IT Department began informing students that their placement score indicated that they should take a reading class. The numbers of students who received (and are receiving) such a message (48% and 58%) indicate the deep need this college's students have for improving their reading skills. In fact, this demonstrates the need for a reading class. It is a challenge to get students enrolled in a reading class, so the department needs the support of all institutional entities to encourage the students enroll.

## Table 10: Numbers of Students Placing into CSM Reading Courses,September 3, 2012—April 17, 2013

Time Period	Numbers of students who took the placement test	Numbers of students who received a message stating that they should take a reading class	Percentage of Students Who Placed into a Reading Class
9/1/2012-2/1/2013	5,343	2,578	48%
2/1/2013-4/17/2013	1,733	1,038	59%

SOURCE: District IT Office.

## V. Institutional Planning

#### **A. Results of Plans and Actions**

Describe results, including measurable outcomes, from plans and actions in recent program review goals for the next cycle (2011–2012):

## Table 11: Chart for Goals Listed in Last Year's Program Review:

## Goals for 2011–2012

#### **Results and Plans**

1. Work with BSI to have reading classes supported by a counselor. BSI has funded this practice as a pilot in several English classes over two semesters. Since the practice of having BSI students receive integrated counseling is well supported by best- practices research for student success, our department will be asking BSI to support this project for Reading classes.	<ol> <li>This could not be implemented. Counselors were unable to take part in this due to numerous other responsibilities.</li> <li>Plan: If possible, work with BSI to have a counselor assigned to reading classes in 2013– 2014.</li> </ol>
2. Increase enrollment through multiple efforts. Garner the support of the CSM Marketing and Publicity Department to launch and execute a campaign to make the Read Department a prominent presence on the college and in the community as part of an overall campaign to expand enrollment in the department's classes.	2. Enrollment remained consistent. However, enrollment is not optimal. Outreach needs to continue. The CSM Marketing and Publicity Department assisted with the design of flyers. The faculty personally paid for all materials and participated in outreach efforts at Connect to College, County Fair, and Operation Welcome. Continuous efforts will be needed. Students are not required to take a reading class. Students are under pressure to take only courses that take them through a course of study via the quickest route.
3. Maintain Read 825 as the only acceptable Read Level 4 ESL Course. CSM Reading Department Program Review.	<ul><li>3. This was not achieved. The ESL Department is implementing a Level 4 reading course. This may take away from enrollment in Read 825.</li><li>Plan: Continue all marketing efforts through all channels so that all students, including ESL students, enroll in reading classes.</li></ul>
4. Increase the pool of Reading adjunct instructors. The Reading faculty must contact Reading Departments at Cal State Fullerton, Santa Clara University, and adjunct faculty at other colleges in	4. This was achieved. Outreach was conducted. A number of interviews were conducted. Minimum qualifications for teaching reading at the College of San Mateo (and in the SMCCD) follow guidelines

order to expand the applicant pool. In addition, the full-time Reading faculty must work with District HR for assistance in advertising for adjuncts.	<ul> <li>suggested by the College Reading and Learning Association (see Addendum of CRLA newsletter of Fall 2012).</li> <li>Recently, numerous colleges and universities have implemented master's degree programs in college reading, which has resulted in the CSM Reading Department many more qualified applicants than in the past.</li> <li>Adjunct instructors were added to the pool. A new adjunct began teaching in Spring 2013, and two new adjuncts will begin teaching in Summer and Fall 2013.</li> <li>Plan: Continue recruitment efforts to add highly qualified reading instructors to the adjunct pool for the Reading Department.</li> </ul>
5. Study the current cut scores for Read 825, Read 830, and Read 400, and revise the cut scores as the data indicate. Explanation: study the correlation between current cut scores and student success in each class.	<ul><li>5. Carole Wills worked with the Dean, Counseling Department, and Testing Office to make adjustments.</li><li>Plan: We will continue to monitor cut scores and their impact on reading levels of students who enroll in the reading classes.</li></ul>
6. Hold department meetings to discuss SLOs for Read 825, Read 830, and Read 400 to examine whether or not the department believes the course SLOs should be revised.	<ul><li>6. Achieved.</li><li>Meetings were held in Fall 2012 and Spring 2013.</li><li>Plan: In Fall 2013, when all new faculty members are in place, we will decide whether or not to make changes to the course SLOs. Any change recommendations will be submitted to the COI in February 2014.</li></ul>
7. Consider adding and updating materials in the Read/ESL Center for students' TBAs.	<ul> <li>7. Achieved. Materials are being updated as of Spring 2013.</li> <li>Plan: Discontinue use of old materials and teacher- made materials. Choose and implement a new diagnostic reading test. Search for new materials and develop new modules (including video clips), especially ones that focus on Reading Apprenticeship strategies.</li> </ul>

8. Discuss assessing additional SLOs in the next	8. Achieved
cycle	Plan: Continue discussion as the department adds new department members in F 2013.
9. Explore the development of a project for BSI with or without the involvement of another department. Funding will be needed.	9. This goal was vague. Dropped.
10. Participate, if possible, in WestEd's Reading Apprenticeship Program, either in the online mode or face-to-face mode. If possible, the Reading Department will do this in conjunction with one or more members of another department. Funding will be needed.	<ul><li>10. Achieved.</li><li>The two Reading Department full-time members participated in RA training for three days in early August 2012. They participated throughout Fall 2012 and Spring 2013. They did this in conjunction with the Biology Department and some members of the Math Department.</li></ul>
	Plan: Send one-full time faculty member to the Reading Apprenticeship Community of Practice Training in June 2013 and February 2014. Continue the Reading Department's Faculty Inquiry Group (FIG). As possible, continue with college-wide FIG. Continue outreach to other departments.
11. Continue development, as possible, of webinars/virtual sessions for use in the Read/ESL Center. Software is needed for online classes. Apple Cinema Display would be helpful.	<ul><li>11. This effort is continuing. Tapings have been initiated.</li><li>Plan: Work with the digital-media librarian and use a subscription to Lynda.com to develop modules related to Reading Apprenticeship strategies.</li></ul>
12. Attend workshops, conferences, and institutions to keep up with best practices in the teaching of reading at the community college level.	<ul> <li>12. Achieved with West Ed RA.</li> <li>The workload of a two-member department prevented members from being able to participate in any other conferences.</li> <li>Plan: Send reading faculty members to conferences such as College Reading and Language Association, Student Success, OnCourse, Online Conference, including CA Online Conference and Sloan Consortium Conference (Emerging Technology, Online, Blended), STOTT training, National Council of the Teachers of English, and other related teaching improvement (best practices) reading, writing, technology/online conferences.</li> </ul>
13. Work with the Dean of Language Arts, Dean of Counseling, and the CSM Testing Office to update the placement messages for all Reading courses,	<ul><li>13. Achieved.</li><li>The department worked with the Dean and the</li></ul>

perhaps adding a few words regarding Reading Courses in the message a student receives for English classes.	District IT Department. Beginning after the census in September 2012, any student who took a placement test and placed into a reading class received a standard message encouraging him or her to enroll in a reading class. Plan:	
	Request permission from IPC that the CSM Reading Department be given the contact information for any student who receives such a message, so that a faculty member from the Reading Department can follow up with a personal call or e-mail.	
14. Explore other delivery options for Reading Department courses, such as lab-only courses and READ 400. The department will be responsive and, as possible, innovative in methods the students may use to complete TBAs as allowed if there are changes in the current policy.	<ul> <li>14. The department has considered a number of innovative ways for lab-only courses and Read 400 to be delivered. The current rules restrict the department from moving forward on them.</li> <li>Plan: If regulations should change, the department will revisit ideas for delivery options related to TBAs.</li> <li>Plan: Increase involvement for student access and success in online delivery modes. Explore involvement in MOOCs.</li> <li>Obstacle: The requirement for students in lab-only courses to do all of the coursework while physically in the Center prevents some students from taking course or completing those courses.</li> </ul>	

## **B.** Program Vision

What is the program's vision for sustaining and improving student learning and success during the next six years? Make connections to the College Mission and Diversity Statements, Institutional Priorities, 2008–2013, and other institutional planning documents as appropriate. Address trends in the SLO assessment results and student success indicators and data noted in Section II. Summary of Student and Program Data.

[Note: CTE programs must address changes in the context of completion and employment rates, anticipated labor demand, and any overlap with similar programs in the area as noted in Sections II.F.1 and II.F.2.]

[Note: Specific plans to be implemented in the next year should be entered in Section V.C.]

#### **Reading Department Vision**

The CSM Reading Department's vision for reading students is to provide them, and to the degree possible the content faculty, reading instruction that provides maximum engagement, follows best-practices, and uses technology in all aspects of design and delivery.

Basic-skills students in the CSM reading courses face many challenges, some of which are directly related to reading. However, as research shows, students' challenges are also caused by financial stressors, social and cultural pressures, lack of motivation or hope, and an inability to complete what they start and gain a sense of success.

The Reading Department is committed to being actively involved in seeking assistance that will enable reading students to achieve success not only in improving their reading but in achieving the end result of graduating from the College of San Mateo with a degree or certificate. The department envisions being involved with the Umoja project, with obtaining counseling support for students in its classes, with providing delivery options that reach all students who might not otherwise be successful, and with embracing research and methods still to be determined by the many Student Success initiatives.

The department remains committed to online courses and will seek to improve its success and retention rates in those courses.

The department will strive to be a resource to students and faculty with RA resources and practices.

1. To guide future faculty and staff development initiatives, describe the professional enrichment activities that would be most effective in carrying out the program's vision to improve student learning and success.

The Reading Department faculty will attend conferences and workshops in areas such as online teaching, reading, Student Success, and English. For example:

- *online teaching* (e.g., Stott Training, CSM Technology Assistance, CA Online Conference, Sloan Consortium, Educause, Merlot)
- *reading* (e.g., College Reading and Language Association Conference, CA Reading Association, International Reading Association Conference)

Student Success (e.g., Reading Apprenticeship, 3csn, Best Practices)

*English* (e.g., National Council of Teachers of English, Teaching of English at Two-Year Community Colleges)

The instructional aides in the reading component of the Read/ESL Center will need training in all of the above areas.

2. To guide future collaboration across student services, learning support centers, and instructional programs, describe the interactions that would help the program to improve student success.

Students at CSM come from many demographic backgrounds. Many of them need the services of the Reading Program and of all the other programs that are designed to help basic-skills students who are struggling with reading.

The department will continue work with the CSM Publicity and Marketing Department, local high schools, and community groups to promote reading, with the end objective of increasing enrollment in reading classes.

The department will work with Counseling, Program Services, BSI, DSPS, and the Learning Center to increase student awareness of reading classes as a source of focused reading assistance for basic-skills students.

The department will work with Admissions and Records and IPC to obtain contact information on all students that the District IT informs would benefit from a CSM reading class. This will enable reading faculty to make a follow-up effort to encourage such students to actually enroll in a reading course.

3. To guide the Institutional Planning Committee (IPC) in long-range planning, discuss any major changes in resource needs anticipated in the next six years. Examples: faculty retirements, equipment obsolescence, space allocation. Leave sections blank if no major changes are anticipated. Specific resource requests for the next academic year should be itemized in Section VI.A below.

#### Faculty

One full-time faculty member will leave the college at the end of May 2013 for one year of banked leave, ending with retirement at the end of May 2014. The department needs to hire one full-time tenure-track reading instructor.

#### Equipment and Technology

The Macbook Pro used by the department for teaching online is out of warranty as of Spring 2013. This item may need to be replaced. Due to its use for online teaching and preparing online materials, a MacBook with maximum short-term memory and long-term storage and a retina display is required. In addition, two iPads and four keyboard covers will be needed.

#### Instructional Materials

Books and software will need to be ordered.

Classified Staff

Facilities

Two workstations need to be created in the Read/ESL Center. Currently, there is only one. A facilities work request will be submitted. Needed: one faculty desk and chair, phone (line can be

shared with current line for Read/ESL Center), one of the current computers could be used.

#### C. Plans and Actions to Improve Student Success

Prioritize the plans to be carried out next year to sustain and improve student success. Briefly describe each plan and how it supports the <u>Institutional Priorities</u>, 2008-2013. For each plan, list actions and measurable outcomes.

## **Institutional Priorities, 2008-2013**

- 1. Improve Student Success
- 2. Promote Academic Excellence
- 3. Promote Relevant, High-Quality Programs and Services
- 4. Promote Integrated Planning, Fiscal Stability, and the Efficient Use of Resources
- 5. Enhance Institutional Dialog

Plan	Institutional Priority #	Outcomes
1. Have a counselor	1, 2, 3	Students will be more
assigned to reading classes.		connected to the college.
		Students will have direct
		advice on courses and
		career paths.
2.Increase enrollment.	1,2,4,5	More students will use the
		reading classes .
3. Keep Read 825 as a	1, 2, 4, 5,	ESL students wil continue
viable course for ESL		to benefit from reading
students		instruction offered in
		reading classes.
4. Continue to recruit	1, 2, 3,	Students will receive
highly qualified reading		reading instruction from
instructors for the Reading		highly-qualified
Department's adjunct pool.		instructors, following
		guidelines of the College
		Reading Association (see
		Addenum)
5. Continue to examine cut	1, 2, 3, 5	Ensure placement into
scores for all reading		reading classes is
classes.		accurate.
6. Examine all SLOS for	1, 2, 5	Submission of course
all courses. Consider		outlines to COI in
streamlining and		February, 2014.

#### **Table 12: Plans to Improve Students' Success**

		l
incorporating Reading		
Apprenticeship outcomes.		
7. Discontinue use of old materials and teacher-made materials. Choose and implement a new diagnostic reading test. Search for new materials and develop new modules (including video clips) especially ones that focus on Reading Apprenticeship strategies.	1, 2, 3, 4	Students will have access to relevant, modern, and excellent learning/reading materials. Students will have access to reading assistance for program and licensing exams.
Develop materials and modules directly geared to technical and career programs such as the programs in (and their licensing requirements. Nursing, Electronics, Fire Science, Administrative Justice, Dental Hygiene, Cosmotology, etc. Work with professionals as appropriate. Reseach career licensing requirements.		
8. (from last year's program year) same as number 6.	1, 2, 5	Submission of course outlines to COI in February, 2014.
9. (from last year's program review)	N/A	N/A
10. Continue faculty and instructional aides' training and involvement in RA. Send one faculty member to RA Community of Practice Training in June 2013 and February 2014. Continue RA FIG for Reading Department (and as a resouce to students and faculty from other departments and divisons)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Students will receive instruction using relevant, research-based practices. Department will engage in a Reading Departmetn faculty inquiry group to provide consitent excellent instruction across all levels and all courses. Reading faculty will be a resource to students and faculty from
11. Working with CSM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	across the campus. Maximum use will be

digital librarian and/or		made of faculty and
Lynda.com teacher-		instructional training
training subscription - with		received in RA. Students
collaboration of reading		will have access to
faculty and the		modern, relevant
instructional aides develop		materials. Faculty of
video modules, especially		other disciplines will have
pertaining to RA.		access to RA training.
12. Participate in	1, 2, 3, 5	Faculty will be versed in
conferences such as online		best practices. Student
teaching, Reading		will receive high-quality,
Apprenticeship, College		engaged instruction.
Reading Association, and		
others mentioned in		
program review.		
13. Work with Admissions	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Students will receive a
and Records and IPC to		personalized invitation to
obtain contact information		take a reading class.
of all students who place		, C
into a reading class		
(currently available via		
District IT Office)		
14. Develop innovative	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Students will have more
ways to deliver lab-only		options and recieve
courses that allow students		assistance in the lab
more freedom and better		tailored more specifically
utlize staff expertise (as		to his/her reading needs.
law allows).		Ľ l
16. Explore involvement of	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Help African American
a reading class in the		students belong to a
Umoja program		community and increase
		their rate of success.
17. Two work stations in	1, 3. 4	Enable students working
Read/ESL Center (relevant		in the Read/ESL Center to
to Read/ESL Center)		have better conferencing
		conditions.

[Note: Itemize in Section VI.A. Any additional resources required to implement plans.]

VI. Resource Requests

Changes	Resource Needs		
1 retirement	One full-time		
	tenure track		
	reading		
	instructor		
Computer goes	1 Macbook pro		
out of warranty	to replace the		
	one going out		
	of warranty.		
	This computer		
	is used for		
	online teaching		
	and video clip		
	development. It		
	needs		
	maximum		
	memory,		
	storage, and a		
	retina display		
New part-time	Need for 2		
instructors	iPads for part-		
	time instructors		
	to develop		
	video RA		
	course		
<b>F</b> 1 '	resources.		
Emphasis on	4 Logitech		
development of RA video	ultra-thin		
modules	keyboards for		
modules	new adjunct iPad and		
	current one used in		
	Read/ESL		
	Center: \$400		

## Table 13: Resource Requests

## A. Itemized Resource Requests

List the resources needed for ongoing program operation and to implement the plans listed above.

## Faculty

Full-time faculty requests (identify specialty if applicable)	Number of positions
Reading Instructor (full-time, tenure track)	1

Complete <u>Full-Time Faculty Position Request Form</u> for each position.

## Equipment and Technology

Description (for ongoing program operation)	Cost (approximate)
1 Macbook Pro, retina display, maximum memory and storage (current computer will be out of warranty)	\$5000
1 iPads @ \$600 each	\$1200
4 ultra-thin keyboard covers, Logitech @ \$100 each	\$400

Description (for prioritized plans)	Plan #(s)	Cost
Items listed below are under Plan # 7 and # 11	π(3)	
2 Tripod-to iPad, iPad holder attachment @ \$40 each	\$80	
2 iPad holders @ \$19 each	\$ 58	
1 site license to Lynda.com for 5	\$800	
2 air printers @ \$250 each	\$500	
2 Apple app gift cards to purchase apps for iPad @ \$100 each	\$200	
6 thumb drives @ \$10 each	\$60	

## Instructional Materials

Description (for ongoing program operation)	Cost
4 <i>Reading for Understanding</i> , 2nd Edition (Reading Apprenticeship books) @ \$20.00	\$80
5 Using the iPad @ \$15.00	\$60

Description (for prioritized plans)	Plan	Cost
	#(s)	

## **Classified Staff**

Description (for ongoing program operation)	Cost

Description (for prioritized plans)	Plan	Cost
	#(s)	

## Facilities

For immediate or routine facilities requests, submit a CSM Facility Project Request Form.

Description (for prioritized plans)	Plan #(s)	Cost
Two workstations need to be created in the Read/ESL Center. Currently, there is only one. A facilities work request will be submitted. Needed: one faculty desk and chair, phone (line can be	# 17	\$1000 (extimate)

## **B.** Cost for Prioritized Plans

Use the resources costs from Section VI.A. above to provide the total cost for each plan.

Response: See information listed above.

Plan #	Plan Title	Total Cost
1		
2		

Addendum

# Fall 2012 BRINGING TOGETHER NEWS AND IDEAS FOR THE CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF CRLA CALIFORNIA CONNEXION

## Acceleration and the New Angle on Requiring a Reading FSA

Our 2012 Conference Theme: "Exploring new Angles on Student Learning and Diversity," strikes me as apropos. There has been much discussion amongst California Chapter members about the new "angle" of acceleration. The California Acceleration Project encourages examination of curricular sequences, but reading is not included as part of this project. English faculty are strongly encouraged to incorporate reading instruction into their accelerated courses; however, reading as a discipline is not being recognized by this

movement. Once again, many reading departments are feeling like the college's step child and advocating for recognition as proponents for acceleration are pushing for integrated reading and writing courses. Reading departments on some community college campuses have chosen to merge or to collapse their reading courses with English. From what I understand, this concept is based upon the idea of mutual cross training of their colleagues in Reading and English. At Fullerton College, we do not share this vision primarily because it undermines the distinction of our FSA in Reading. I believe the opportunity for collaboration between English and reading through the acceleration project is exciting, but this type of collaborative course requires expertise from both disciplines as recognized by the state of California in an FSA. We do not want to move forward working from the assumption that there is no value in having a graduate degree in reading and that only an English degree is sufficient for reading instruction. I believe the California Chapter of CRLA needs to once more come together as a united front on this issue.

We spoke with a collective voice to define for the state of California the qualifications to teach reading. In 1993, Gretchen Cupp represented this constituency before the California Academic Senate that proposed changing the standards for Reading instructors. Likewise, Kathleen Engstrom, wrote in 1994 a letter reiterating our role as a spokesperson for the Reading discipline in California Community Colleges. As Kathie Bartle Angus recognizes in our chapter history: "Their efforts helped establish the qualifications for instructors of reading courses as an MS in Education with an emphasis in Reading or a minimum of 12 units in graduate level Reading courses." Therefore, when we, as academic colleagues, decide to cross train and begin establishing new courses

GZ

#### CALIFORNIA CONNEXION



"I feel like a better teacher after attending the Spring CA Chapter Conference."



Susan K. Wolcott

Page 2

## A New Angle on Reading (continued)

without meeting the FSA in Reading, we continue to undermine the recognition of our own discipline. Colleagues have

been fighting their "battles" on a local level. Since each campus will ultimately make their own determinations about accelerated course offerings, we will see several variations develop state wide. Since accelerated reading and writing courses are already being piloted, it is important to address the key issue: How do we protect our programs and work toward a collaboration model to explore this new angle of student learning without sacrificing reading as a recognized discipline??

In Houston, we would like to begin to gather information about the existing accelerated courses and how campuses are determining minimum qualifications for teaching these courses. What I am asking the chapter to consider is taking a clear position on requiring California Community Colleges to have accelerated courses team taught by English and Reading faculty who have the appropriate FSAs or by faculty who have both FSAs.

CA Chapter Spring Meeting featuring with Susan K. Wolcott. Ph.D. Developing Students' Critical Thinking Skills: Strategies for the Classroom

The California Chapter's spring meeting was a teleconference hosted by California State University, Fullerton with participants from American River College in Sacramento; West Valley College in Saratoga; Madera College Center; and Fullerton College. Dr. Susan K. Wolcott is an educational consultant and founder of WolcottLynch. She is known for "Steps for Better Thinking" a resource to assess critical thinking and to develop

problem-solving skills. Dr. Wolcott provided extensive handouts on critical thinking, rubrics and lesson ideas. Her expertise in critical thinking was inspirational to all. It was highly successful.



www.wolcottlynch.com

If you would like to learn more about WolcottLynch or access a free online tutorial for critical thinking, visit her home page.