

Universal Design for Learning

End of the Year Report

May 2017

This report summarizes the major initiatives and accomplishments for the 2016-2017 academic year and includes goals for future planning.

Leadership and Member Changes:

Stephanie Polliard became the committee chair, and with guidance from the VPAA Mary Lou Mosley and the MSI 2015 team's report, we began to shift the focus of the committee. Most of the committee consisted of returning members, but we welcomed several strong, creative people.

Committee Redesign:

The first action was to change the name of the committee from Underprepared Student Initiative to Universal Design for Learning. The intention was to capitalize on the efforts and research project associated with the MSI 2015 team project. The first two meetings were devoted to dissection of this report to identify the recommendations that fit the scope of this committee.

The link from the Employees page on the PVCC website was changed from Underprepared Student Initiative to Universal Design for Learning. We are no longer producing a newsletter.

Faculty Development:

In January, we offered a Learning Week Session focused on Universal Design theory domains, critical reading, and brain research.

In April, we discussed proposing another session for the fall and spring learning week sessions.

Student Outreach:

We participated in the Pumapalooza/Student Success Fair in March. We asked for a small stipend to purchase snacks to distribute. We collected "positive affirmation" statements from members of the committee which were then copied, cut, and attached to each snack. We also created a final exam bookmark that included study and wellness tips for students. Feedback from students who visited our table was positive; they particularly found the bookmarks helpful.

Future Plans:

We would like to create a repository on a Canvas portal for sharing information and particularly videotaped workshops so that students and faculty who are unable to attend them can access and learn from them at their convenience.

We will also coordinate more frequently to add information to the website.

We intend to rename our work with the "Success by Design" motto to convey the emphasis on all students, not just developmental students and not just developmental content areas.