

To: Academic Senate  
From: Committee A (Lisa Hott, Chair)  
Re: Recommendations regarding Dual Enrollment  
Date: April 24, 2024

**BACKGROUND:** In 2021, Committee A was given an initiative to: “Investigate and make recommendations on the Dual Enrollment Program, on academic and professional matters”.

The Committee conducted a focus group and worked extensively with the former Dual Enrollment Coordinator and the Research Department to conduct a survey in February 2022. 149 Faculty members completed the survey which was broken into four areas depending upon the faculty members’ role.

We gave an update to Senate in May 2022 of our major concerns. In November 2023 we presented our first batch of recommendations to Academic Senate and they were approved and forwarded to management for their consideration. Those recommendations centered on concerns from Division Chairs.

We are now submitting our final recommendations looking at concerns from the other three groups who answered our survey, mostly COS faculty teaching dual enrollment classes and K12 teachers who are teaching a dual enrollment class on their home campus. We ask that you support our committee’s work and approve sending these important recommendations to COS management.

**AREAS OF CONCERN BY FACULTY:**

- ❖ 42% believe that dual enrollment students do not understand what is expected of them as college students
- ❖ 45% say that some are not prepared for college level work
- ❖ 39% say that some do not have the maturity for college level work
- ❖ 39% felt pressured to teach dual enrollment students regardless of their level of preparation
- ❖ 36% of faculty do not believe that dual enrollment students are aware of the consequences that poor grades and dropping classes will have on their transcripts and financial aid eligibility
- ❖ 24% felt pressured to follow high school district policies when they conflict with COS policies
- ❖ 60% of COS instructors did not meet with high school administrators regarding their needs
- ❖ 66% of K12 dual enrollment instructors do not attend COS division meetings
- ❖ In comments, rigor is a serious concern. Statistics support this concern.

## OUR RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Hold mandatory meetings for high school students before they are allowed to be registered in a dual enrollment class to educate them about the differences between high school and college classes and how their grades could affect financial aid, and their college career in the future. Students will get a handbook for their future reference and will sign that they received it.
- Require that high schools have an option for students (even those in a pathway) to not take a college course. Some HS pathways are requiring it and some of these students are not prepared or don't want the college consequences to affect their future.
- Require high schools offering dual enrollment classes with a COS instructor to give that instructor an orientation to the classroom, technology and a person to contact on-site if there are issues.
- Hold orientations for K12 dual enrollment instructors to so they can learn COS policies and procedures, including a contact person for support if they are asked to violate COS policies. The COSAFA reps should also present at the orientation so the instructors understand their rights and responsibilities.
- Provide extra encouragement to dual enrollment instructors to use Early Alert for dual enrollment students and have Early Alerts reports for DE students go to HS Counselors (similar to reports going to EOP&S counselors).
- Encourage divisions to share material with dual enrollment faculty including labs, exams, etc. to exemplify division standards and hopefully increase rigor.
- Assign mentors to new dual enrollment instructors
- Hire a Dual Enrollment Auditor to ensure that all provisions of the MOU are followed. It should spell out how to make a complaint when faculty is pressure by high school administration to break COS policies.
- Add language to the MOUs stating that if a high school has been found to have been pressuring dual enrollment faculty to pass students who do not meet the rigor of the course, future dual enrollment courses may be suspended or terminated.
- Draft APs/BPs for Dual Enrollment program enforcement (enforcement should cover with whom to file complaints when procedures are not being followed or contracts are being violated, and what the process would be to respond to such complaints/ violations).