



Title V Evaluation

Mountain View's first Title V Grant is entering its fifth and final year with the start of the fall semester. As a part of its requirements, the Title V Project underwent an outside evaluation in order to track its success in adequately meeting project objectives.

David Trujillo, Title V Evaluation Consultant, visited MVC on June 20 and spoke with Moises Almandariz, Title V Project Director; various MVC faculty involved in the project; and Felix Zamora, MVC President. Conversations focused on the project's progress, the degree to which objectives have been met, and the possibility of institutionalizing Title V operations and staff.

Following his visit, Trujillo submitted a memorandum detailing his findings and commending MVC for its use of Title V funds.

Originally awarded in October 2001, this grant has made significant progress in advancing and improving opportunities for students and improving the quality of instruction in math, science and technology.

A number of new computers are now housed in both the Learning Skills Center and the math lab, compliments of Title V funds. As a result, both labs, which have high rates of student usage, have been significantly strengthened. New equipment has also been purchased for the biology/sciences labs, further expanding opportunities for students.

New software has been introduced for faculty use in order to increase the utilization of technology in the classroom, and while PLATO did not have its intended impact, it created an awareness of the possibilities of using technology in the classroom. Alternative software packages have now been implemented and a number of math faculty are regularly taking advantage of them.

Additionally, faculty skills have been increased through Title V funded staff development activities, including workshops on technology, computer/software use and instructional methodologies to boost student success and involvement.

"Clearly, MVC is becoming much more effective at meeting the learning needs of under-prepared students as the Title V Project gives instructors more tools to deal with student's varied learning styles," said Trujillo.

The project clearly exhibits all the hallmarks of an efficient, successful Title V Project: The college is working from a sound plan of operation; the Project staff are qualified, committed and understand the intent of the application; and the college's administration supports the Project and recognizes its importance," he said.

This final year will be a busy one as Title V staff diligently work to successfully close out what will have been five years of growth for the entire MVC community.

Symposium Interactive Pen Displays

Title V recently purchased several Symposium Interactive Pen Displays for use on the Mountain View campus. Three of the displays are located in the CADD lab and one is located in W122, a Microsoft certification classroom.

The displays are equipped with the same software as SMART Board Interactive Whiteboards. A display looks like a regular flat screen monitor, but it allows users to connect to other computers and, using the attached pen, simply touch the screen to control applications.



There are many new teaching possibilities afforded by the acquisition of this new technology. During lectures, instructors can directly control student's computers, or the instructor's screen can be projected onto a projection screen. Through the use of various pen tools and a highlighter, instructors can easily demonstrate steps in exercises as students work.

According to Steve Billingslea, MVC CADD instructor, the displays afford individual benefits for both traditional and non-traditional age students.

"The Symposium Displays are great for traditional age students because they allow you [the instructor] to control their computers, making it impossible for the students to play around and check email," said Billingslea. "But they are also good for adult students because you can project everything onto a screen and allow students to control their own computers while watching the projection screen."

In addition to being a lecture aid, the displays also allow instructors to grade work without having to print it out. For instance, an English teacher can grade a paper, using editing marks and writing comments on it with the display pen, and then simply email it to the student.

An instructor can also use the display to go through the steps of an assignment while recording it, then offer the recorded assignment as a tutorial that can be played back at any time.

Billingslea is excited about the Symposium Display's future at

MVC and the possibilities it opens up for advancing online classes and desktop assistance.

"We are trying to use the full technology that is available today," said Billingslea. "As long as it's good for the students. It's all about the students."



Staff Spotlight:

Alan Lim, Instructional Labs Coordinator

Alan Lim is Title V's most recent addition. Alan, who hails from Singapore, is not a newcomer to Dallas County Community Colleges (DCCC). He first came to the United States in August of 1999 and began a program of study at North Lake College (NLC). After receiving an Associate of College/University Transfer degree, he transferred to Southern Methodist University (SMU), where he received a full academic scholarship, and completed a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management Information Systems in May 2003.

In addition to his educational ties with DCCC, Alan also has a work history with the district. While studying at NLC, he worked as a Department Assistant in the Trio office, and later in the Educational Partnerships office. Then, after graduating from SMU, he became involved in NLC's Rising Star Program where he implemented a student tracking database that he designed for his senior project at SMU.

As Title V's Instructional Labs Coordinator, Alan wears a variety of hats. Likely his biggest task thus far, he has worked diligently with the research department in updating and maintaining the student tracking database, Red Canyon, in the Learning Skills Center (LSC). This database is integral for gathering data to include in annual Title V reports for the Department of Education. It also allows Title V to keep track of students who are served by the LSC and its equipment, much of which was purchased by Title V.

Alan is learning the various ins and outs of overseeing Title V in order to facilitate the smooth operation of the department in compliance with federal guidelines. He assists Moises Almendariz, Education Center/Title V Dean, in implementing services and activities for MVC faculty, staff and students; budget management; tracking Title V equipment and developing end-



Alan Lim, Title V Instructional Labs Coordinator

of-the-year reports that help ensure future government grant programs.

Additionally, Alan has been working on updating and redesigning the Title V website. His goal is to make it more informative and aesthetically pleasing. Various Title V happenings will be highlighted on the website throughout each semester.

"This has been a big transition," said Alan, "because while I worked with many students during my time at North Lake, I have little student contact in my current position."

However, Alan enjoys the new challenges his job presents, and has much to contribute to Title V. He possesses an inquisitive mind and is always ready to learn something new.

In the future, Alan plans to continue his education by pursuing a Master degree, and eventually, a Doctorate. Ultimately, he hopes to teach at the college level some day.

N

otables to note...

Moises Almendariz
 Dean, Education Center/
 Title V
 214.860.8711
 moisesa@dcccd.edu
 W170H

Alan Lim
 Coordinator, Labs Title V
 214.860.8862
 W170A

Patricia Henderson
 Executive Secretary
 214.860.8822
 pah6330@dcccd.edu
 W170G

Melissa Hurtado
 Bilingual Career Placement
 Specialist
 215.860.3631
 mxh6482@dcccd.edu
 W170D

Miriam Jimenez
 Help Desk Analyst
 214.860.8886
 mxj6482@dcccd.edu
 W163C

Melanie Barry
 Editor, MVC Title V Tidbits
 214.860.8879
 melaniebarry@dcccd.edu
 W170

**Learning Skills
 Center**
 214.860.8538
 W170

LSC hours:
 Mon.-Thur. - 8am-9pm
 Fri. - 8am-2pm
 Sat. - 8am-5pm
 Sun. - 1pm-5pm

For questions or com-
 ments regarding MVC
 Title V Tidbits, please
 contact Melanie at
 melaniebarry@dcccd.edu

Funded by the United States
 Department of Education

Title V Calendar of Events

July

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2
Independence Day 4	<u>Workshop:</u> Multiply/divide fractions 4-5 pm 5	<u>Workshop:</u> Add/subtract fractions 8-9 pm 6	<u>Workshop:</u> Decimals 8-9 pm 7	8	9
11	Summer II begins 12	<u>Workshop:</u> Main idea/supporting details 6-7 pm 13	<u>Workshop:</u> Percent 8-9 pm 14	15	16
<u>Workshop:</u> Multiply/divide polynomials 4-5 pm 18	19	20	<u>Workshop:</u> 5-paragraph essays 1-2 pm 21	22	23
<u>Workshop:</u> Multiply/divide rationals 10-11 am 25	26	<u>Workshop:</u> Fragments/run-ons/comma splices 4-5 pm 27	28	29	30

August

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	Summer II Ends 11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27
Fall Semester begins 29	30	31	Title V Workshops will resume in September		