

FCS Midyear Report

January 2011

By

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Child Care

1. Triton Update

- a.** Mary Rinchiuso discussed the Associate Degree of Arts in Teaching (AAT). This degree is available in Early Childhood Education, Special Education as well as Secondary Math and Science. It is currently accepted at all state universities, and she is pursuing articulation with the local private colleges.
- b.** Many of the students are struggling with the basic skills tests; primarily the math section. Students are thriving in the program, and then unable to advance due to their struggle with this test. All education students must pass the Basic Skills test prior to earning 45 college hours. Triton offers a free math workshop for students who want to refresh their math skills before taking the test.

2. Non-traditional students in ECE

- a.** Males were considered the non-traditional student in ECE. Mary explained that many of the females are following their passion regardless of the lower pay, while the males were in search of a higher paying career. Mary said many of the males move into elementary or secondary education which is more lucrative than ECE, and it still allows them to work with children.
- b.** Mary explained the bilingual ECE Program at Triton. Native Spanish speaking students initially enroll in 1 credit hour courses taught in Spanish by a bilingual college instructor. After a few semesters those students transition into 3 credit hour courses taught in English by a college instructor with a bilingual in-class tutor available for the students. Several students have successfully completed ECE certificates and degrees as a result of the ECE bilingual program at Triton.
- c.** This program is working on expansion. All education students must pass the Basic Skills test prior to earning 45 college hours.
- d.** Triton offers a free math workshop for students who want to refresh their math skills before taking the test.

Culinary

- 1.** Chef Denise announced that Triton is planning to do another teen chef competition in the spring. Teachers will receive information next spring. Last year's cook-off was a great success, and one of the winning students was our server for lunch.
- 2.** Triton will again be offering the bakery camp this summer, and is also planning a savory camp as well. Chef Denise will forward Val all the information once it becomes available next spring.
- 3.** Val Berger discussed the Sanitation Licensing Class that will be offered through DVR in the summer of 2011. Students and teachers are welcome to take this free course. Upon successful completion of the test, the participants will pay Illinois Department of Public Health \$35 for their actual license. Students successfully passing this test are waived from this course requirement at culinary schools.
- 4.** The attendees discussed means of promoting Triton's culinary program to our high schools. Chef Denise will visit the schools. Students/classes are also welcome to visit Triton, with Tuesday mornings being the best time to organize visits. Triton can accommodate high school groups of 10-15 students/visit.

Interior Design

1. Triton Update

Jo Beth discussed the changes at Triton which include the elimination of the interior design program. Triton did maintain their residential interior design class, which students may take for dual credit. Color materials is also a possibility for a dual credit course. The Triton architecture program is still available for students.

2. Speakers for interior design classes

- a.** Jo Beth Halpin offered to speak at the high schools on interior design and its related topics.
- b.** Jason Walker with Benjamin Moore also speaks to high school classes. He is located at the Merchandise Mart.

3. Non-traditional students in Interior Design

- a.** Males were considered the non-traditional student in ECE. Jo Beth explained that interior design is predominantly female, and the CAD/Architecture program is predominantly male. There has been some discussion of changing the "interior design" name to "interior architecture".
- b.** It was suggested that working with the art classes may help to introduce this field to a wider audience of students.

Future Meetings

We are currently scheduling a health careers meeting and another culinary meeting to discuss Programs of Study.