

PROGRAM VIABILITY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

LIBRARY

The Library's primary goals are to help students college-wide to learn and succeed, and to support the college curriculum by serving students, faculty, staff and administration. The Library staff supports the instructional mission of BC by collaborating with other instructional faculty and by providing and managing resources for reading and research.

VIABILITY CRITERIA

Number of student contacts:

1. During 2011/12, librarians answered approximately 24,000 questions at the second floor reference desk. Students received assistance which helped them complete coursework and therefore contributed to campus-wide student retention. The majority of questions were related to coursework, but librarians also assisted with registration and technology-related inquiries.
2. The series of library research workshops on finding, using, and evaluating research materials continue to be popular with faculty and students. These one-hour sessions provide students the research skills they need to succeed in college. Registrations for workshops in 2011/12 totaled 2,379.
3. In addition to workshops, in 2011/12 an estimated 4,525 students attended 181 course-specific library orientations conducted by librarians at the request of classroom faculty. These sessions ranged from basic library skills for Academic Development, ESL and Automotive courses to advanced research strategies for English B2 and Philosophy students.
4. As of November 6, 2012, the Circulation staff has checked out over 12,750 books and reserve items to students this fall semester. The library's reserve collection enables students who cannot afford to purchase textbooks access to their classroom material.
5. Although statistics are not available, the circulation desk and staff operate as an information center for the entire campus. Students and community members come to the desk for directions, registration inquiries, etc. This is especially true on Friday afternoons, Saturdays and evenings when the rest of the campus offices are closed.

Provides necessary student services: Aside from the above mentioned services of reference and instruction which constitute a large part of the Library's primary mission, the Library also:

1. Strives to maintain an up-to-date and relevant book and periodicals collection that supports the College curriculum. Librarians consistently evaluate the existing collection and databases to ensure quality and relevance for BC students.
2. Collaborates with instructional departments to ensure students will be well-served. Librarians work with departments and individual instructors to develop more meaningful research assignments.
3. Provides students with a true college experience by bringing a notable author to campus each year. Many faculty adopt the chosen author's book for their courses giving the students a connection to the author and his or her work.
4. Provides the technical support necessary for students to access the library catalog and to circulate library materials not only on the BC campus and Delano, but at Cerro Coso and Porterville as well. Additionally provides technical support that allows student access to online research databases and eBooks both on and off campus.

Transfer Model Curriculum: The TMCs that have been developed across campus have large research components. The Library's staff and collection will play a role in a student's ability to complete the necessary research assignments. We have experienced an increase in psychology and sociology students asking for research paper-related assistance.

Meets outside agency accrediting requirements: ACCJC's accreditation standard II.C specifically requires and evaluates "library services and collections."

The "Domino Effect"

The elimination or cuts to current library staffing and resources will impact students in all disciplines. Unfortunately, a majority of students arrive at BC from high school without the needed critical thinking and research skills necessary to succeed at the college level. In response to this, librarians have established an ongoing collaboration with the Kern High School District. The Library staff plays a pivotal role in the education of under-prepared students. From research workshops, orientations and one-on-one reference assistance, librarians contribute to retention rates and student success. As evidenced below, the Library plays an important role in CTE, Basic Skills and general education courses across campus.

"Just wanted to thank you and your staff for the above and beyond class you provide for my automotive class. The quality of their research papers show a definite improvement since we have been able to hold this training session."--

George Canaday, EIT, Fall 2012

"I wanted to take a moment to thank you for all the help and direction you gave my students this week. Students told me what a great resource you are!" -- **Erin Miller, History, Fall 2012**

"I can never thank you enough for your outstanding commitment to student success. Your expertise helped my students tackle the arduous task of becoming familiar with search strategies and MLA citations. I am so grateful and appreciative that you made the trek out to Delano to teach my students basic research skills using the BC site. The activity is quite a challenge but it is rewarding to see the students grasp the ideas for research." – **Carol Schaefer, ACDV, Fall 2012**