

Rationale for Proposal for Change in use of Program Pathways Mapper

1. Identify the key Issue, novel situation, challenge, problem, etc.

[Program Pathways Mapper \(PPM\)](#) (the data, maps, videos, and workforce data) has not been fully updated since the 22-23 catalog. The 23-24 catalog was partially updated for CSUB maps specifically. UC maps were not updated and currently may display inaccurate degree completion requirements, namely IGETC lacking Ethnic Studies. The 24-25 catalog has not been imported. BC was one of the first colleges to utilize the PPM tool. However, we were not moved over to the “framework” that all of the other colleges and universities use when the tool was fully implemented. The Program Mapper Curator would manually manipulate excel spreadsheets from eLumen and California Community Colleges Curriculum Inventory (COCI) to the Data Cleanup Tool (DCT) for PPM and then manually reviewing curricular data (courses, programs, SLOs, PLOs, prerequisites, corerequisites) and correcting it as needed. The Program Mapper Curator has been either a current or past faculty Curriculum Committee Co-Chair in order to ensure this curricular knowledge and faculty primacy.

In Fall 2022, with more noncredit courses and programs as well as multiple Bachelor’s degrees unable to be imported, in addition to prerequisites and corerequisites, a request was made to lighten the manual load. That is when the BC PPM team found out BC was not on the same “framework” as everyone else. So work began to move us over to the other framework. It is now Fall 2024 and we do not have an automated nor functioning data import method for any catalog year.

2. Provide underlying rationale for addressing the issue.

We cannot currently rely on PPM to provide an accurate representation of the catalog and/or accurate possible program maps.

3. Include any relevant background and institutional history.

People, when at BC, created PPM and are its biggest public supporters. BC is the “spotlight” pilot college and college partner that is showcased in numerous presentations nationwide. One of our partner institutions, CSUB, is relying on us to update our curriculum data and catalog information in PPM so they can continue to pair their 2+2 maps with as part of their outreach, grants, and work.

4. Anticipate opposing arguments.

An alternative, unpreferred solution is - Someone can go back to manually manipulating, importing, and reviewing data. That solution is not sustainable and diverts hundreds of hours and resources to pay faculty to do the work that can be with the write code/API. If staff were asked to do this instead of faculty, the data review and corrections would be out of faculty purview or given to overworked and understaffed curriculum specialist(s).

5. Articulate possible solution(s), highlighting support for the most desirable outcome.

Delete/remove/separate previous catalog data and move forward, from scratch on the new framework, with the 24-25/25-26 catalog, whichever is the current academic year when it is possible, either in PPM or PDF (or some other medium).

Leads from the Foundation for California Community Colleges, on 12/3/24, proposed a similar solution of deleting the manual data and importing fresh data. It may be possible to import to previous years (23-24 specifically) while working on 24-25 and 25-26 data simultaneously. The timeline should be about 2 weeks.