Expand Applied Learning

4A.   Expand the number of students completing internships and service learning experiences.

The subgroup recommends separating out "internships" from "service learning." An "internship" experience currently has a more precise definition than a "service learning" experience. Furthermore, MVCC has data on the number of students who have completed "internships." There is not currently a precise definition of "service learning," nor is there accurate data on the number of students who complete "service learning" experiences.

Internships

The definition used for "internship" is that used by SUNY as reported through the Office of Institutional Research.

> "Internship describes instruction in a mentored setting where students have an opportunity to apply the theoretical knowledge they have acquired in a field directly related to the program of study."

Data on the number of students who have successfully completed internships over the last 10 academic years has been provided by the Director of Institutional Research, Mark Radlowski. (See attached table.)

Enrollment data for the last 10 academic years was obtained from the MVCC website. Non-matriculated student enrollment was subtracted from the total enrollment numbers (as suggested by Mark) in an attempt to get "more accurate" numbers.

Because it is likely that numbers are duplicated from Fall to Spring semesters, the average enrollment for the academic year was calculated using the adjusted enrollment data.

Finally, the percentage of students who completed internships over the last 10 academic years was computed using the average enrollment data.

Over the last 10 years between 22% and 34% of the average enrollment (for the academic year) of students have completed internships. There was a 50% increase from AY0506 to AY1314. It was more of a little roller coaster than a steady increase. There was approximately a 3% increase from AY1314 to AY1415. There was approximately an 18% increase from AY1213 to AY1314. Using the percentage increase over the last 10 academic years, the average increase is approximately 9%.

Recommendation:

> It is the recommendation of the "Applied Learning" subgroup based on current program requirements that:
> The number of students completing internships be expanded by 5% per year (realistic goal) and by 10% per year (stretch goal).

4B. Expand the number of sites for internships and service learning.

Data on placement sites for internships has been collected by the subgroup. The list of placement sites currently totals approximately 198. However, before this group can provide any suggestions regarding expansion of placement sites, more information is needed.

The subgroup will need to collect data on the following:

How many of these sites are currently being used?
Are these sites used all semesters (Fall, Spring, Summer)?
How long have these sites been used?
How many (if any) of these sites are new sites? (within the last 5 years)
How many students have been or are placed at each site?

 Recommendation:

It is the recommendation of the "Applied Learning" subgroup that:
Data regarding placement sites be collected during the 2015-1016 Academic year.

Goals for expanding the number of placement sites for internships be established in the Fall 2016.