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Introduction

This Online Education Plan specifies objectives and strategies which MiraCosta College commits to enacting over the 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26 academic years. It was developed by the MiraCosta Online Educators (MOE) subcommittee of the Academic Senate, in support of the college's institutional mission, vision, values, goals, and commitment, as well as the specific mission and vision for Online Education at MiraCosta College. The plan is part of the college's institutional planning framework, and guides the college's ongoing development of Online Education, under the leadership of MOE and the Faculty Coordinator of Online Education, in collaboration

Online Education Vision and Mission

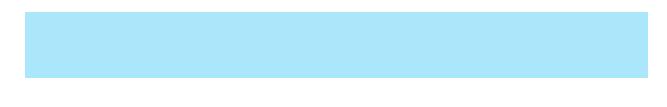The Vision for Online Education at MiraCosta remains as stated originally in 2014:

> MiraCosta's Online Education leverages an increasingly rich array of teaching and learning resources, experiences, and environments. MiraCosta College will lead in providing effective and innovative Online Education as an integral means of equitable access and student success.
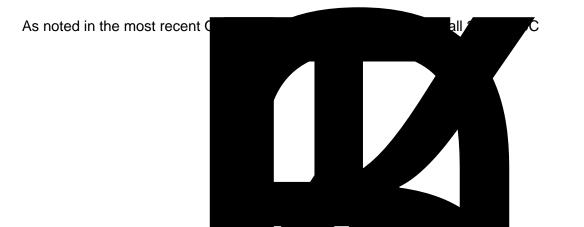
The Mission for Online Education at MiraCosta is incorporated into MOE's charter and was updated by MOE in 2022-23:

> The mission of Online Education at MiraCosta is to create and support an engaging, equitable, and student-centered learning experience through online instruction, resources, and services.

Analysis of Key Data

The charts below were included in the 2022 Online Education Board Report. The data demonstrates steady increases in DE participation and importance of DE to students and the college, with major jumps in 2020-21 and 2021-22 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. DE success and retention also show a long-term upward trend, with some narrowing of equity gaps, but the most recent data (not included on the charts) is less encouraging.

As noted in the most recent C   all   C
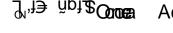
demonstrate a high level of student demand for online education classes, with just 17% of students expressing interest in an entirely on-campus schedule, 35% of students expressing interest in an all-online schedule, and 44% of students looking for a blend of on-campus and online classes.

The MiraCosta DE success rate for fall 2022 (67.1%) is similar to the regional (67.7%) and statewide rates (67.9%). However, it is important to note that fall 2022 data show that the gaps between DE retention and success and on-campus retention and success are greater than 5%, a target set by MiraCosta's Vice President of Instruction in 2014. (Retention gap for DE is 6.5 percentage points; success gap is 8.7 percentage points). Prior to the pandemic, the gaps had been narrowed to 5% or below.

Further, though DE outcomes for Black/African-American and Hispanic/Latino populations were improving prior to the pandemic, lingering effects associated with the pandemic may have an impact on this progress. For Black/African-American students, the DE success rate improved from 49.0% in 2013-14 to 56.7% for 2018-19, but in fall 2022, this rate was 55.6%. The Hispanic/Latino student DE success rate improved from 57.2% in 2013-14 to 63.7% in 2018-19, but in fall 2022 it was 63.4%. These outcomes significantly lag the fall 2022 71.4% success rate for White students (though that rate also is lower than the 72.6% of 2018-19).

While MOE has prioritized equity-minded online teaching strategies in documents such as the MiraCosta Online Class Quality Guidelines, and the college has supported strategies for closing equity gaps through programs such as the Cultural Curriculum Collective and MiraCosta Online Mentors, it's clear that work is needed to further engage faculty and better assess needs of students of color and working adults   wæ

2023-26 Online Education Objectives and Strategies

MiraCosta Online Educators and the Faculty Coordinator of Online Education commit to the following objectives and strategies for the 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26 academic years. They will work with all stakeholders to prioritize and fulfill these, with regular communication to the college community about the work.

Improve student-facing outreach and communication about online programs and classes.

Identify and promote online and/or zero-cost program pathways that the college commits to offering in a meaningful, consistent manner.

Develop and implement a brand/identity for MiraCosta online education.

Support student-centered, equity-minded scheduling and offering of classes in different modalities, including HyFlex.
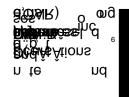
: Innovate, evaluate, and increase effectiveness of online classes, programs, services, and initiatives, especially in support of providing a student-centered learning experience for disproportionately impacted student populations.

: Support continued development of and research on strategies to reduce equity gaps for black and Latinx students, and increase student success in online learning environments, including:

Engaging faculty with data and data coaching programs focused on success and equity for disproportionately-impacted (DI) populations in online education.

Enhancing resources and support to help faculty develop online courses that comply with accessibility regulations.

Research the impacts of Student Online Academic Readiness in

Regular focus groups with students of color and working adults regarding their experiences in distance education classes, and with staff and faculty from ASE programs on their insights on supporting students of color in online education.

r   An audit of a random sample of distance education classes to assess alignment with requirements established in the MiraCosta Online Class Quality Guidelines.

Analysis of Student and Employee

Monitor and ensure compliance with state and federal distance education regulations, CCC Chancellor's Office requirements, and accreditation standards for distance education.

Make updates as needed to AP 4105, the DE Handbook, and the MiraCosta Online Class Quality Guidelines to support DE practices that are equitable and compliant with regulations.

Engage with the CVC Course Exchange to the extent warranted through ongoing evaluation of the relevant opportunities and challenges.

Objective 3: Engage students in effective supports for success in online education.

    The college has expanded the availability of online support services and Online Education led the deployment of the Student Support Hub in Canvas as a centralized location for these online services. (3.A.1 - Complete and ongoing)

    Online Education has served nearly 7000 students through the Student Online Academic Readiness workshop. (3.A.1 - Ongoing)

    The college completed steps to become a CVC-OEI Home College and has committed to moving toward becoming a Teaching College, though engagement of MiraCosta classes and students with the CVC Course Exchange has been minimal. (3.A.2 - Ongoing)

    Success and retention for distance education at MiraCosta, including data disaggregated by ethnicity, steadily improved up to the pandemic. Data during and following the pandemic is challenging to interpret, but points to an ongoing need for improvement. (3.B.1 - Ongoing)

Objective 4: Ensure online education at MiraCosta is in compliance with external regulations.

    MiraCosta's DE policy (AP 4105) and associated documents have been regularly updated in response to changes in federal and state DE regulations. (4.A - Ongoing)

    Accreditation processes in 2016 and 2023 resulted in no sanctions with regard to DE. (4.A.1 - Complete and ongoing)