



Title V Grant (HSI) Newsletter

Climbing the Ladder: New Programs for First Responders

August 2015

Title V Staff members continue to focus on Year 1 Grant Objectives:

- 1) (To) Develop a Wildland Fire Science AAS/Certificate; and
- 2) (To) Develop new Online Admissions and Registration systems, to include Online Advisement.

From the Project Manager (Kathryn Keen):

As we draw near to the end of Year 1 for the Title V Grant, I want to take the opportunity to thank everyone on campus as well as the College Board of Trustees and the Internal Monitoring Team for their support, suggestions, and input for implementing grant activities to meet Objectives. As we move to wrap up Year 1, we also move forward to prepare for the onset of Year 2, and we do so with the same enthusiasm and professional vigor as we did nearly a year ago when we began this process.

WFS Program (Sara Karabelski, ID, and Rich Dolphin, WFSS):

Competency-based course content was completed, and edits to those courses will be on-going as we insert material from the *National Wildfire Coordinating Group* (NWCG) to ensure that our students are taught up-to-date industry standards. Additionally, each pilot course will be infused with *Quality Matters* standards and other state-of-the-art teaching strategies to assist students for success in online and hybrid courses. Wildland Fire Science Certificate/AAS pilots will begin 10-1-15, and students may participate in online admissions/registration at this time and may receive online, program specific advising, including discussions about the WFS Crosswalk.

Online Services (Juanita Garcia, OSS):

The online, customized system of new online services include new program-specific Web pages; available Pathways for Success pages for students; and interactive advising components such as *Live Chat* are now fully available. Additionally, the completion of the new mobile-friendly apps for cell phones, iPads, etc. are up and running, streamlining the process for students to have immediate access to what they need to find the programs and then to use online services. Satisfaction surveys are in place at this time for feedback so that we may make any adjustments needed as we enter Year 2 of the grant.

As this month closes, the Title V Team is preparing for our first on-campus visit by the External Evaluator, and we will report on that visit in the next *Newsletter*. As always, the Title V Office door is open if you should want to drop by and visit any of us about the grant.

Kathryn Keen, on behalf of the Title V Staff:
Sarah, Juanita, Rich, and Tonia