

Final Report, Spring 2016

Program Statistics

- SLA was offered with 15 courses and 26 sections, compared to 16 courses and 32 sections offered last spring. This is down six sections from last spring.
- SLA served 638 students in Spring 16. This compares to 744 students in Spring 15. This is down 106 students from last spring.

New Courses and Initiatives

- **AUTO 114 – Dr. Wagner:** This was a new SLA course this semester.

Outcomes for Spring 16

There were several courses that stood out this semester, including:

- The pass rate for SLA in BIOL 108 was 90% which was 17% higher than the SLAC group.
- The pass rate for SLA in RAD1 143 was 100% with 0 withdrawals and 0 failures.
- The pass rate for SLA in EEET 124 was 100% which was 30% higher than last spring.
- The pass rate for SLA in MATH 115 was 73% which was 12% higher than the SLAC group, but was 15% lower than the NSLA group.
- The pass rate for SLA in CHEM 121 was 88% which was 9% higher than the SLAC group.

Challenges

- The ACCT 201 SLA had a 63% pass rate, while the SLAC had an 83% pass rate. The SLA section had slightly lower HS GPAs and ACT scores than the SLAC group. Note that there will be a new faculty member for ACCT 201 in the Fall 2016 semester.
- The ACCT 202 SLA had an 80% pass rate, while the NSLA and SLAC groups had pass rates of 85% and 95% respectively. The SLA group had significantly lower HS GPAs and ACT scores than the other groups. (ACTs were 3.6 points higher in the NSLA group and 4.5 points higher in the SLAC group.) The SLA section was also small, with only 15 students.
- The AUTO 114 SLA had a 60% pass rate compared to 94% and 93% for the NSLA and SLAC groups respectively. This is a new course, so we have no previous data to compare this with. The student comments from the end of semester evaluation were very positive regarding the facilitator.
- The MATH 110 SLA had a 64% pass rate, while the NSLA had a 76% pass rate. Facilitators reported issues with getting the students to attend the lecture portion of the class since there was not an attendance policy.
- The CHEM 114 SLA had a 67% pass rate compared to 78% in the SLAC group. The SLAC group did have slightly higher ACT scores.

Opportunities

- Seek out opportunities to update faculty on SLA resources and policies.
- Identify what SLA courses have attendance policies.
- Check out the results of the FCTL study for developmental math.
- Have a requirement for all new SLA faculty members to have an attendance policy.
- Encourage current SLA faculty to have an attendance policy to ensure optimal outcomes. (Daily quizzes can be an effective way to promote lecture attendance as well.)

Student Comments

- Going into this Chem SLA section I did not know what to expect. This is my second time taking this class and I hoped that it would help me to understand the material better. With the help of Abby and this SLA course I was able to make my grade from a D all the way to an A-. In general, Abby made the classroom have a homey atmosphere and I was never afraid to ask questions. It was very comforting that even if you answered a question wrong, Abby somehow still made you feel good about yourself for trying.
- I feel like the SLA workshops have helped me quite a lot in preparing for tests and learning new study techniques.
- SLA is like one of the best things next to regular tutoring. I like it, it was worth it.
- SLA was very beneficial to my grade in math. My math grade increased by a letter grade. The extra help, study skills, etc. Helped me better comprehend the material. The teacher was always helpful and genuinely enjoyed his work.
- It was extremely helpful and I will be taking more courses that are SLA in the future.
- I think SLA helps a lot because it's like taking the same math class twice. Also it was a longer class so whatever I missed in class it gave me more time to understand.

Faculty Comments

- Because SLA has harsher attendance policies than regular classes, many students will skip all regular classes and just attend SLA. This is unfair to the SLA facilitator and creates an attendance problem for the regular teacher. Solution needed.
- Continue the program.
- We should have two SLA sections for CHEM 121 spring semester especially for non-science majors.
- An SLA class really revolves around the students who are enrolled- just like any other class. Some semesters are good, some are not.

Supervisor's Note

- The purpose of SLA is to reinforce the material that was covered in lecture - not to replace it. For SLA to be effective at increasing passing rates of C- or better, it is imperative that SLA faculty members have an attendance policy that will ensure that students are in lecture.